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# China

CHINA TOURISM

## THE THREE GORGES CHANGED FOREVER (I)

FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE  
NEW LIVES IN YUNNAN

277

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## FOCUS ON XINJIANG

On the vast land of Xinjiang in Northwest China, there are mountains, basins, deserts and lakes, all providing tourists with numerous attractions — ruins of ancient cities and tombs along the Silk Road; Turpan, an oasis in the desert; Kanas Lake, a gem embedded in the Altay Mountains; Bayanbulak, the Swan Lake; and the world's second largest desert, the Taklimakan. The minority ethnic groups living in Xinjiang, such as the Uyghur, Kazak, Mongolian, Uzbek, Tajik,

Xi be ,  
Kirgiz and  
Tatar, all  
have their  
own unique  
and colourful  
culture.



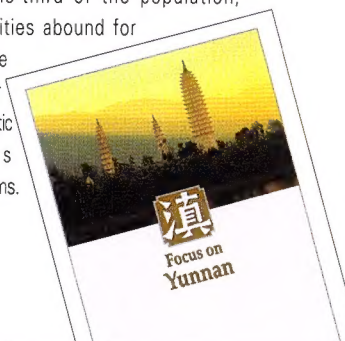
## FOCUS ON SHAANXI

Shaanxi is the cradle of the Chinese civilisation and Xi'an was the capital of 13 dynasties. This has left Shaanxi a rich legacy of historical sites and cultural relics. In the provincial capital Xi'an, there is the fascinating terracotta army unearthed from the tomb of the First Emperor, Qin Shihuang; the tomb of Tang-dynasty Wu Zetian, China's first empress; and the stele forest. The province's beauty is capped with the sheer cliffs of Mount Huashan and the yellow earth of the Loess Plateau.



## FOCUS ON YUNNAN

The mountainous wonderland of Yunnan enjoys a favourable warm climate all year round. Its capital, Kunming, sitting alongside Yunnan's largest lake, Dianchi, has the honourable name of "Spring City". The province is full of natural wonders and cultural relics, such as the Stone Forests, the Shangri-la, and the ancient cities of Dali and Lijiang. With over 20 diverse ethnic groups making up about one-third of the population, opportunities abound for you to see their characteristic cultures and customs.



# The Call of China's West

## FOCUS ON TIBET

The Tibet Autonomous Region of China is a land of mystery for tourists, a land of wonders for explorers, a land of purity for Buddhists, and the ultimate challenge for mountaineers. Its beautiful landscapes, unique geographical features and rich cultural legacy continue to attract an increasing number of visitors.

The countless attractions of Tibet make it impossible to include them all in one book. This photographic publication offers an introduction to some of the Region's most celebrated features: the Potala Palace and its precious collection of cultural relics; the Jokhang Temple with strings of worshippers prostrating themselves before it; the Shoton Festival and the Sunning of Buddha ceremony; the ruins of the mystical Guge Kingdom; and the amazing Qiangtang Grassland....

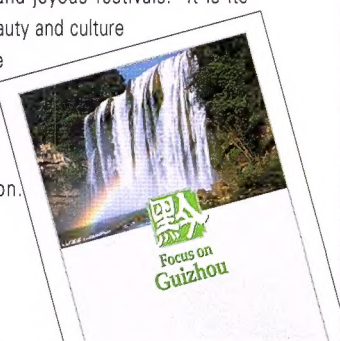
At the same time, *Focus on Tibet* outlines the six major routes to Tibet and the many stunning landscapes found along the way.



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## FOCUS ON GUIZHOU

Guizhou is a land of splendid natural scenery. Its towering mountains and karst landforms team up with the gurgling rivers and magnificent waterfalls to form a wonderful work of Mother Nature. Huangguoshu Waterfalls and the limestone caves are the province's most frequented scenic spots. The 17 ethnic groups living in the picturesque province further colour the land with vivid customs and joyous festivals. It is its natural beauty and culture that make Guizhou a perfect travel destination.



## FOCUS ON GUANGXI

Unusual topography has endowed the province with numerous spectacular karst formations — limestone caves, pinnacles and rocks. The most famous and enchanting scenic spot is Guilin, and the most travelled route, on the Lijiang River from Guilin to Yangshuo. The coastal city of Beihai has the country's largest beach, the Silver Beach. Other attractions include the diverse traditional customs of ethnic minorities, the Sino-Vietnamese border area, and the mysterious Huashan cliff paintings.



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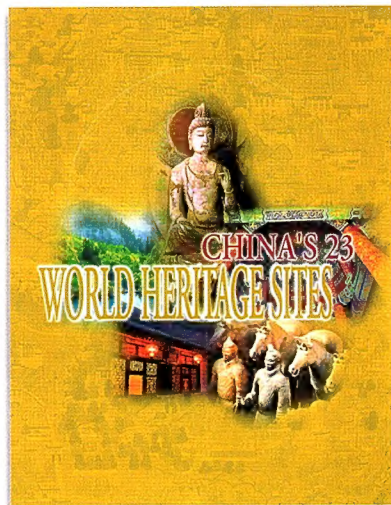
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# China's 23 World Heritage Sites



Today, more than 580 cultural and natural sites have been placed on UNESCO's World Heritage list. China, one of the world's four ancient civilisations, also has its share of these heritage sites. Up to 1999, 23 sites in the country have been honourably put on the list. These include the Mountain Resort in Chengde, the Temple of Heaven, the Ruins of Zhoukoudian, the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, the ancient city of Pingyao, Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, Qin Shihuang's Mausoleum in Xi'an, Wulingyuan, Huanglong, Jiuzhaigou, Mount Emei, the ancient town of Lijiang, Potala Palace, Mount Wudang, Mount Taishan, Confucius' Temple,

Mansion and Cemetery in Qufu, Suzhou Gardens, Mount Huangshan, Mount Lushan, Mount Wuyi and Dazu Rock Carvings.

In this book, *China's 23 World Heritage Sites*, you can delight in the beauty of each one of these sites. Incredibly gorgeous pictures together with a practical travel guide add to the book's comprehensive nature and make it a great gift for you and your friends.

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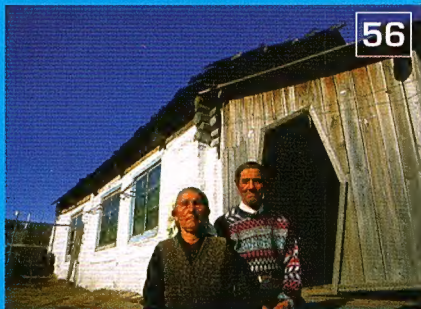
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HOT OFF THE PRESS

China's 23 World Heritage Sites





## 7 From the Editor

## 8 Update

## 10 Feature Story

### The Three Gorges Changed Forever (I)

Photos by Zheng Yunfeng Article by Zhang Ronghui, Zheng Yunfeng

The Three Gorges Project has taken 75 years from the proposal of building to the beginning of the project. Some one million local residents had to be relocated so as to complete the project. The Three Gorges are a great book, a scroll of landscape paintings, and a grandiose symphony. They display the tremendous changes of nature and record the footprints of millennia of life's evolution on earth. In this book is written the greatest epic of the Chinese nation, the brilliant culture created by the peoples of Ba-Chu area, and historic marks of mankind's survival in his struggle with nature.

**China**

CHINA TOURISM

No. 277 August 2003



## 55 Travel Gear

### All Roads Begin from the Feet

Photos & article by Chan Yat Nin

## 56 Discoveries

### From Russia With Love—The People of the Ergun River

Photos & article by Huang Yanhong

In the area around Ergun River located at the northern end of Inner Mongolia lives a people like no other—the Chinese-Russians. Far from their homes, it was only natural that their ancestors, who escaped from natural disasters or wars in the late 19th century from China or Russia, would fall in love and marry to form many bi-cultural families.

## 62 Excursions

### Dining in Macao

Photos by Fen Duobei Article by Helen Lee

## 66 On the Way

### New Lives in Northwest Yunnan

Photos by Wang Changshan Article by Chen Xiaobo



# China

## C H I N A T O U R I S M

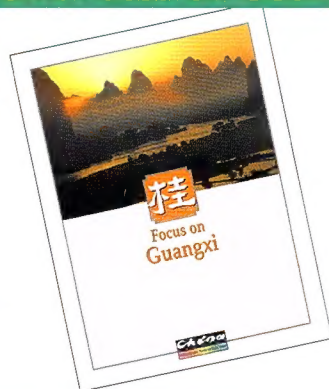
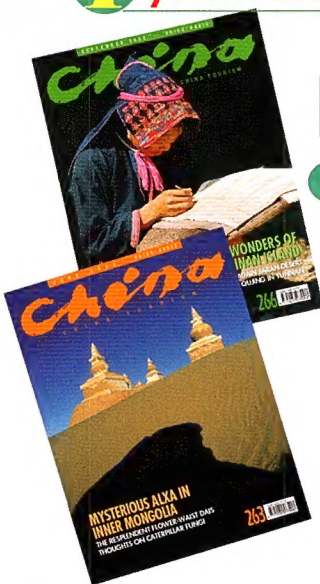
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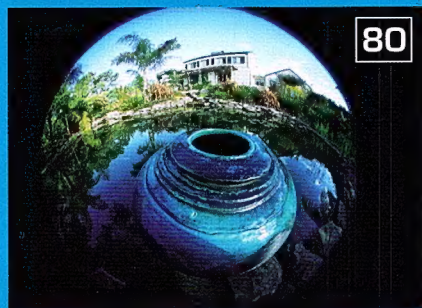
76



Boat trackers of the Three Gorges  
(by Zheng Yunfeng)



78



80

## 70 Profile

### Simon Yam: A Style of His Own

Photos by Chan Yat Nin Article by Helen Lee

## 73 Traveller's Corner

### Trekking to the Source of the Two Great Rivers

Photos & article by Zhou Wei

Stimulated by the adventures of a stranger, the writer determines to explore the remote Qinghai-Tibet Plateau with his friend. After the one-more-month arduous trip, he is not impressed by the boundless flatland of the plateau, but the ever-changing weather there as well as the genuine Tibetans.

## 76 Landscapes

### A Journey Around a Goddess

Photos & article by Hongxing, Zheng Chen



70

## 78 Traveller's Corner

### Night Escape from Golmud

Photos by Joe Chan Article by Uri Hung

## 80 Photography

### Seeing the World Through a Fish Eye

Photos & article by Chau Wing Kit

## 82 Travel Notes

## 84 Executive's Memo

## 86 Calendar

## 87 Next Issue





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## FROM THE EDITOR

# The Passing of History

As this edition goes to press, the World Health Organisation has lifted its travel advisories against non-essential travel to and around the areas worst affected by SARS in China. The recovery might be long, but for the traveller, it offers opportunities to see the country anew, emerging from the shadows as China has done many times before in its long history.

And now an emotional whirlpool of a story, mixing hope for the future with mourning for the loss of traditions, a way of life and history. This is the Three Gorges Project, the world's largest dam and power generation project. The sluice gates are shut and the water level of the new Three Gorges reservoir is rising inexorably, drowning towns and cities, magnificent scenery and historic landmarks. One million people have bid, or are preparing to bid, farewell to the homes their families have inhabited for generations.

In this issue, we try to capture this historic time in all its glory and grieving. The Three Gorges have been a scenic wonder for centuries, but there is much still to see, not least the gargantuan engineering of the dam itself.

We hope our readers can appreciate these splendid photographs by Zheng Yunfeng as a fitting tribute to the people of the Three Gorges, to what has been lost, and to the symbolic significance of the dam for China's future.

The Heaven Pit of the Three Gorges  
by Zheng Yunfeng







## Qingdao to Clean Up in Welcoming Olympic

In order to add more Olympic glory to its seaside charm, Qingdao, the beautiful coastal city in East China's Shandong Province, has put aside money in a special budget aimed at creating a cleaner environment.

The city is a major training base for China's windsurfing team. Qingdao's city government has decided to upgrade its facilities and embrace the Olympic Games with a brand new look. The most daring part of their plan is to minimize air pollution. The first step is placing the future windsurfing competition venue well away from the polluted particles emitted by a nearby power plant.

Only seven kilometres from the venue, the plant produces hundreds of thousands of tons of burnt coal ash every year. Already 40 million yuan, or some US\$3.5 million, have been invested to set up a special line in this plant to turn its coal ashes into concrete or other construction materials. The plant also plans to transport its ashes to remote landfill, rather than leave them exposed. Furthermore, grass and flower beds will soon encircle around the plant.

Meanwhile, everyday wastes created by people living in the city itself will be better disposed of. The comprehensive plan, involving a reduction of air, water and soil pollution, will cost US\$200 million every year, nearly three percent of the city's annual GDP.



## Shanghai-Hangzhou Expressway to Be Broadened

The Shanghai-Hangzhou Expressway will be expanded starting from the end of July, with investment forecast at 2.5 billion yuan. The project will consist of broadening a 95.6 km section of the expressway which passes through six counties and prefectures under the jurisdiction of Jiaxing, a city located between Shanghai and Hangzhou, the capital city of East China's Zhejiang Province.

The 79.1-km-long Fengjing-Shenshi section of the project will be widened to eight two-way lanes, and the 16.5-km-long Shenshi-Dajing section to six two-way lanes. The speed limit will be set at 120 km per hour on the trunk line. The entire expansion project is expected to be completed and opened to traffic by the end of 2005.

## New International Exhibition Centre Planned for Beijing

A new international exhibition centre will be built in outskirt in Shunyi District, northeastern Beijing, to meet a growing demand in the Chinese capital.

The first-stage project of the new centre would cost a total of two billion yuan. Scheduled for completion by 2006, it would have 370,000 square metres of construction area. The new centre would replace the existing China International Exhibition Centre in the city proper and was expected to take 70 percent of the exhibition business in Beijing.

Of the total area, 200,000 square metres was intended for exhibition halls and 170,000 square metres for complementary facilities. The site of the new centre, only 1.5 kilometres from Beijing Capital International Airport, had access to two highways, including one expressway.

## Suzhou Hopes to Host the 28th World Heritage Conference



Suzhou, a renowned water-town in East China's Jiangsu Province, has expressed a strong desire to host the 28th Conference of the World Heritage Committee next year. Suzhou was originally designated to host this year's 27th Conference of the World Heritage Committee. However, due to the impact of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) on China, the event was moved to Paris.

The city had made all the necessary preparations, including importing office equipment from Japan and the Netherlands and training security personnel and tourist guides. Recently, teenagers in Suzhou mailed 1,750 postcards to member states of the World Heritage Committee. The postcards bore the message "World heritage is on my mind" set against an image portraying environmental protection.



## Famous Catholic Church in Harbin to be Restored

A Catholic church, known as the "Notre Dame de Paris of the Orient", will be restored to its original magnificence in Harbin, the capital of Northeast China's Heilongjiang Province. The renovation work has begun, and local Catholic church-goers should be able to attend church beginning in this October, after a lapse of 52 years.

The church was built in 1908 by a French clergyman. Covering an area of 560 square metres, it includes the main church building, built in Gothic style, and two church-related buildings, built in Baroque style. The 30-metre high Gothic building bears a striking resemblance to the well-known Notre Dame de Paris in France. The weather-beaten church is in need of urgent reparations after 52 years of neglect, the most urgent work involving the reparation of cracks in walls and floors.

The Harbin Patriotic Catholic Association, in charge of the restoration work, has collected 1.2 million yuan for the project. As a measure of good will, the government has decided to invest 2.7 million yuan to build a 20,000-square-metre square complete with fountains, grass and flowers, around the church to enhance its beauty.

## Mt. Taishan Expands Scenic Areas

Mt. Taishan, a famous scenic area in Northeast China's Shandong Province, is planning to enlarge its scenic area by developing surrounding forest parks and historical sites.

According to officials of Tai'an city, where Mt. Taishan is located, the adjacent forest parks and sites of historical interest like Taoist temples, the academy of classical learning, monasteries and the Tomb of Feng Yuxiang, a noted Chinese patriotic general, will be linked and developed into a larger scenic belt centred on the renowned mountain.

A tourism economic development zone with an area of 26.7 sq km will be built and a range of new tourist attractions including a bar street, entertainment street, agricultural ecology tours and local community folk customs will be developed.

Mt. Taishan, one of China's five most prestigious mountains, is famed for its unique cultural atmosphere.



The mountain is home to 2,500 stone carvings inscribed by emperors, senior officials and famous scholars of various imperial dynasties in Chinese history. on the bottom floor when it is reopened.

## Chinese Character Museum to Be Built in Henan

The country's first Chinese character museum is expected to be completed by the end of 2003 in Anyang, a city in Central China's Henan Province. The city is famous for its discovery of "Jiaguwen", referring to inscriptions on bones or tortoise shells dating back to the Shang Dynasty (16th-11th century B.C.).

The museum, built at a cost of 40 million yuan, will cover over 6.67 hectares. The museum will be divided into several exhibition halls, each focusing on characters from different dynasties and ethnic groups in China.

## Findings from Tomb of Qinshihuang to Be Exhibited Overseas

Cultural relics excavated in recent years from the Qinshihuang Mausoleum, home to the renowned terracotta warriors, set out for the Republic of Korea (ROK) Tuesday for their first overseas exhibition.

The Shaanxi Cultural Relics Bureau said the 120 pieces, which include civilian tomb figures, sedentary figures, stone helmets and stone loricae, would be on exhibit in Seoul and Busan for a year.

The first emperor to unite China in 221 B.C., Qinshihuang died of illness at the age of 49 in 210 B.C., four years before his dynasty's collapse.



## Zhangjiakou to Build Large-scale Ski Hill

Zhangjiakou City in North China's Hebei Province plans to build a large-scale ski hill which will include ski instruction at a total estimated cost of 94.12 million yuan. The large-scale ski hill will be built on the mountain range of Changchengling, 17 km from Chongli County and under the jurisdiction of Zhangjiakou.

The ski hill will occupy an area of 1,533 hectares, about 1,800~2,100 metres above sea level, with an annual average temperature of 3.3°C. Temperatures do not exceed 20°C in summer and remain above -23°C in winter.

With its abundant snowfall and low winds, the site has also been labelled the "most ideal place for skiing in North China" by the State General Administration of Sports and the China Skiing Association.







# The Three Gorges Changed Forever (I)



Photos by Zheng Yunfeng Article by Zhang Ronghui, Zheng Yunfeng

Originating from the soaring icy peaks of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, the Yangtze River gathers its force by gathering all the small rivers along its way, cutting through Kuimen Pass, dashing through Wuxia Gorge and traversing the mountain ranges of Xiling Gorge, to become the magnificent Three Gorges.

The Three Gorges are a great book, a scroll of landscape paintings, and a grandiose symphony. They display the tremendous changes of nature and record the footprints of millennia of life's evolution on earth. In this book is written the greatest epic of the Chinese nation, the brilliant culture created by the peoples of that area, and historic marks of mankind's survival in his struggle with nature.













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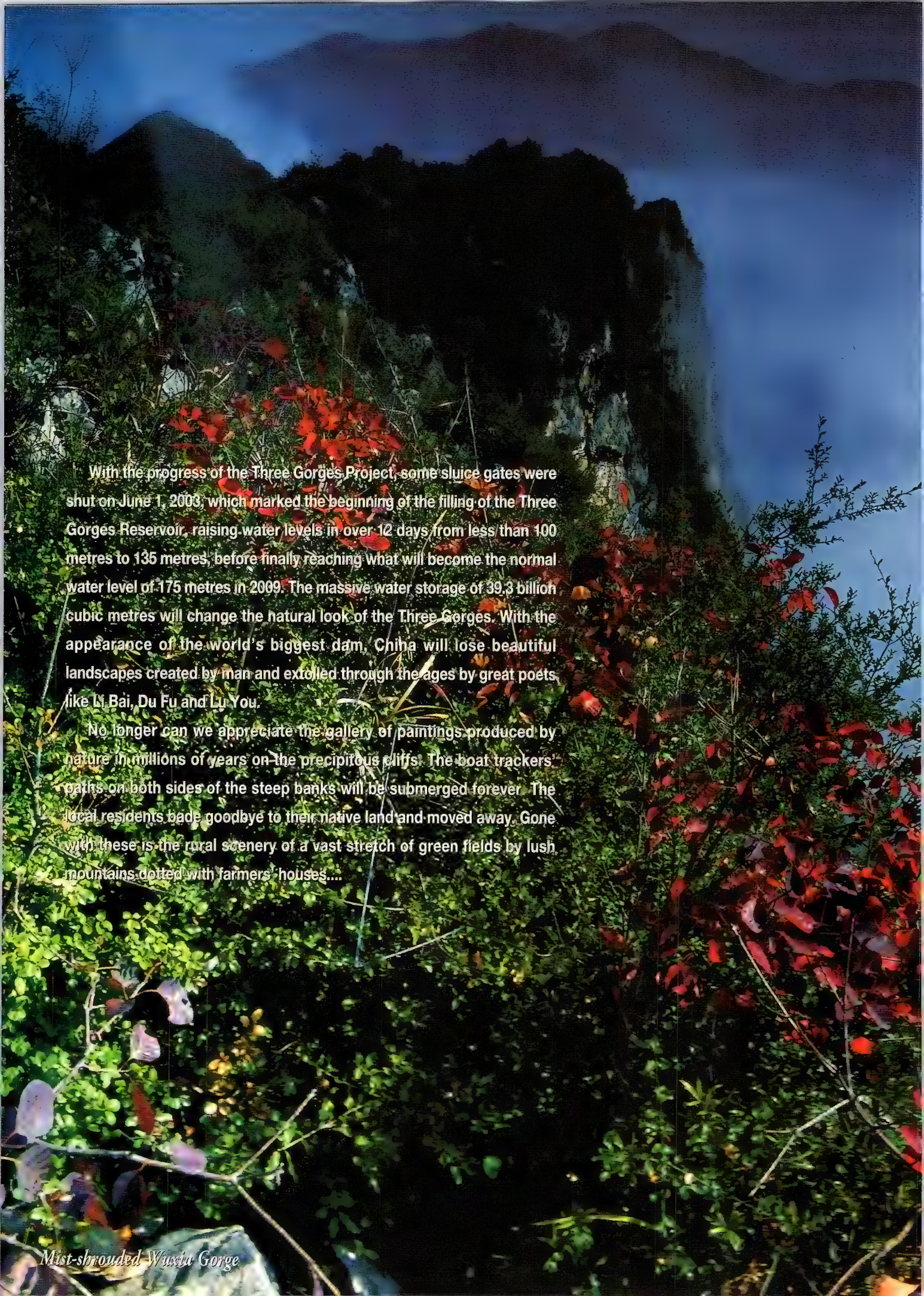


A scenic landscape photograph of a river flowing through a gorge. The river is wide and has a brownish, rippling surface. In the distance, a small boat is visible on the water. The left bank is a steep, rocky cliff. The right bank features a stone-lined path leading down to the water, with lush green vegetation and trees. In the upper right corner, there are branches with leaves, some of which are tinged with autumn colors. The sky is bright and hazy.

*Leaves fall rustling from boundless woods;  
the timeless river rolls on and on.*

*Kuimen Pass — the gate of Qutang Gorge*

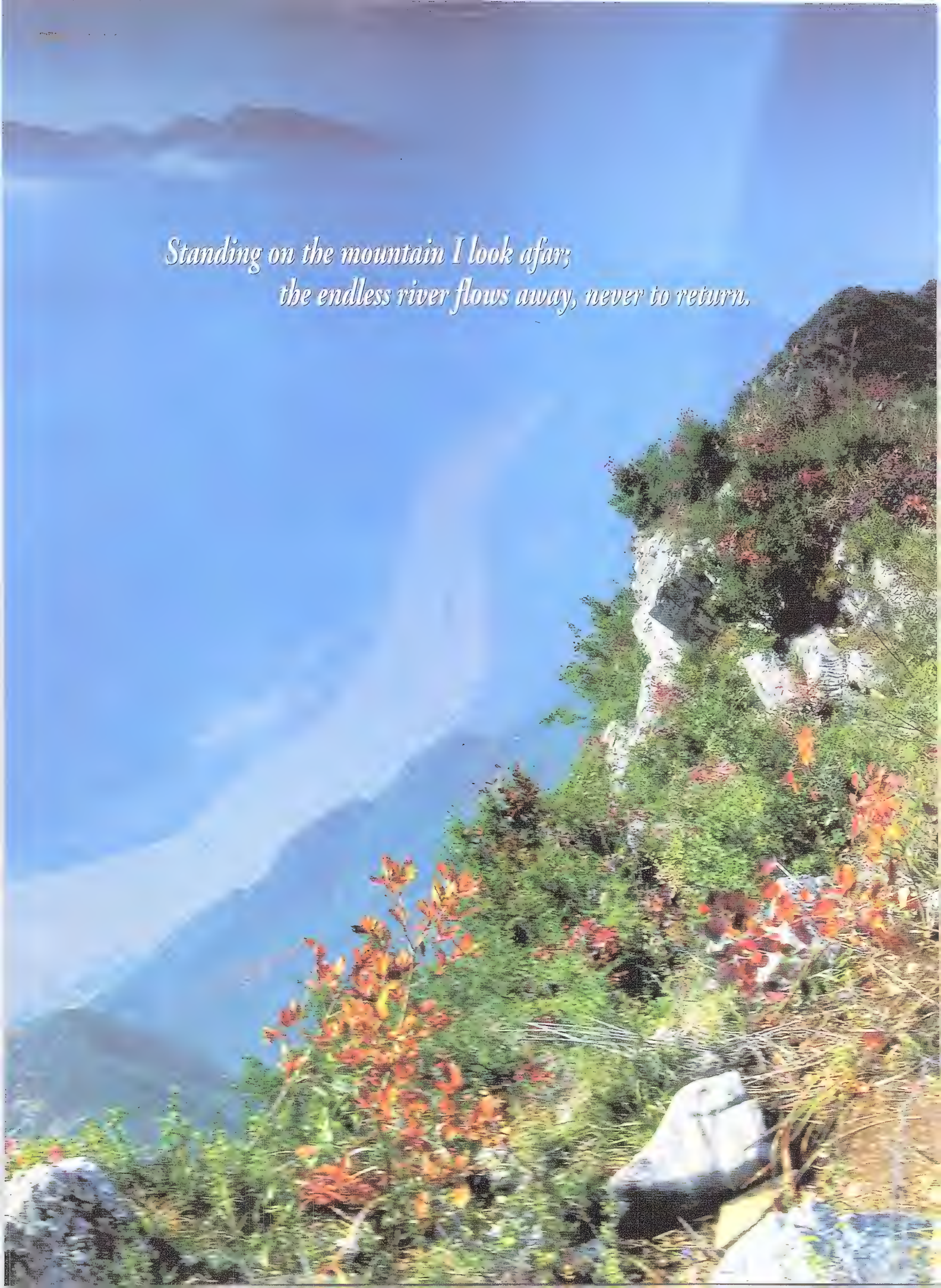




With the progress of the Three Gorges Project, some sluice gates were shut on June 1, 2003, which marked the beginning of the filling of the Three Gorges Reservoir, raising water levels in over 12 days from less than 100 metres to 135 metres, before finally reaching what will become the normal water level of 175 metres in 2009. The massive water storage of 39.3 billion cubic metres will change the natural look of the Three Gorges. With the appearance of the world's biggest dam, China will lose beautiful landscapes created by man and extolled through the ages by great poets like Li Bai, Du Fu and Lu You.

No longer can we appreciate the gallery of paintings produced by nature in millions of years on the precipitous cliffs. The boat trackers' paths on both sides of the steep banks will be submerged forever. The local residents bade goodbye to their native land and moved away. Gone with these is the rural scenery of a vast stretch of green fields by lush mountains dotted with farmers' houses....



A scenic landscape photograph showing a mountain ridge in the foreground with green and autumn-colored foliage. In the background, a wide river valley stretches out under a clear blue sky. The text is overlaid on the upper left portion of the image.

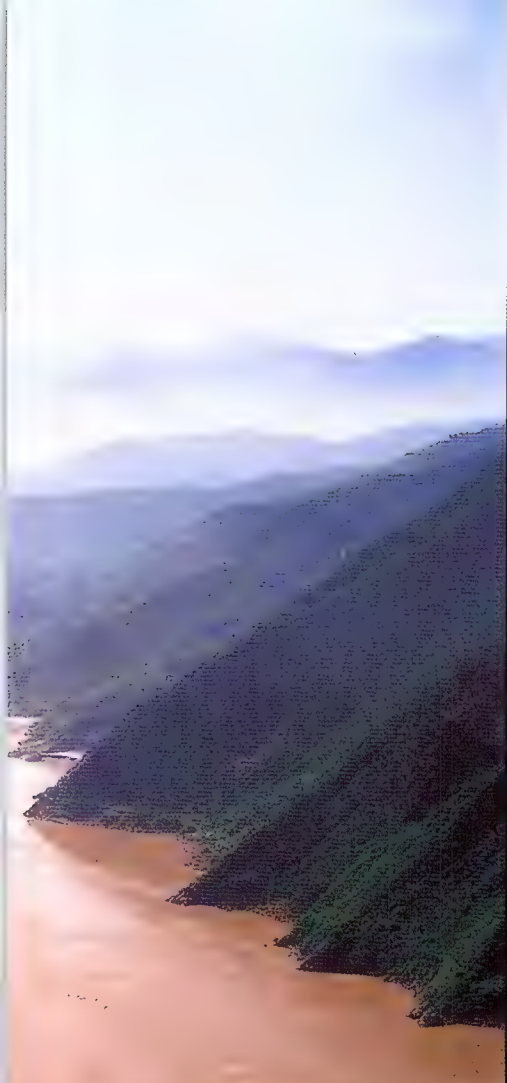
*Standing on the mountain I look afar;  
the endless river flows away, never to return.*



An aerial photograph of the Jialing River at Xiling Gorge. The river is a muddy, reddish-brown color. Several long, dark, rocky ridges stretch across the river, resembling dragons. In the background, there are steep, forested mountains. The sky is overcast and grey. The overall scene is dramatic and somewhat somber.

*Boulders buried in white spray look like snow mortars;  
A broken bridge hangs there like a heavenly ladder...  
But the sight is not there any more.*





As noted Chinese writer Feng Jicai said: "No matter how much energy the Yangtze River will produce after it is dammed, we will lose this great surging river forever. We have been driven to the extremity by a fancy plan to make a choice, and finally we selected what we need to survive with the sacrifice of our Mother River that has nourished us for at least 7,000 years. What we have lost is not only its unique splendid scenery, but also the unrecoverable ancient sites and landscapes that embodied so many marvelous fascinating stories, and its caress with motherly love and care. We are now submerging its 7,000 years of history below more than 100 metres of water."



*Flying over Goddess Peak*



*Heavenly Pit and Earthly Chasm*



# THE TOWNS LOST IN BLASTS

Before the water in the Three Gorges Dam inundated many ancient towns along the riverbanks, the residents had to be relocated and whole towns were demolished with explosives, one by one. The blast bade farewell to the towns' history. Although the new towns provide better living conditions, Chinese people have lost a rich legacy of culture and memories of the area as a whole. A series of ancient towns — the pristine Fengjie County and Dachang Town in Sichuan Province, as well as Badong and Zigui counties in Hubei Province — can only be recalled from pictures.



At 1:40 p.m. on January 20, 2002, the 2,000-square-metre Administrative Building of the Yong'an Town Government collapsed with the order of the demolition chief. The whole process of explosion lasted no more than 10 seconds. This was the beginning of the large-scale resettlement in the area around the Three Gorges Reservoir.





In the streets and lanes of the old town of Fengjie there were striking banners with slogans "Large scale resettlement and removal of houses", "100 days before water storage in the Three Gorges Dam", indicating all would be covered in water here after June 1, 2003.

**T**he huge project has captured the attention of the world, with the number of relocated people involved and the areas to be inundated that have never been seen before in the history of water conservancy and hydro-electricity. When the Three Gorges Project is completed in the second stage and water is stored in the reservoir, the water level of the Yangtze River will rise to 135 metres, the total coverage of the reservoir will reach 1,084 sq km and the land lost will come to 632 sq km. Among the 21 affected cities and counties in Hubei Province and Chongqing Municipality, two cities and 11 counties will be completely submerged. In June when water was stored in the Three Gorges Reservoir, many old towns along the Yangtze River will have fallen in the report of explosions. Gone together with the old towns is the way of life followed there for generations.

### New Towns like Mushrooms After Rain

I knew that the small towns along the river would all disappear, but when they were really gone, I always felt that they had suddenly been lost too quickly. Row after row of the old residential houses were dismantled, so when I arrived at the small town of Xiangxi at midnight, I could not find the hostel "Bosom Friend" any more. The old street paved with flagstones by the Beishi River was nowhere to be seen, and even the grapefruit trees that were about



The town of Wuxi County by the Daning River, 78 km from the town of Wushan County, is the birthplace of the Wu Culture. It was recorded that Wuxi County was established in 211 in the Eastern Han Dynasty. All the houses by the Daning River in this 1,700-year-old town were dismantled.





The old town of Wushan County was located at the estuary of the Dongting River on the northern bank of the Yangtze River. The 12 streets in the town were named after the 12 peaks of the Wushan Mountain. The old town in the picture was totally submerged with the completion of the Three Gorges Project. The new county seat is north of the old one.

Wanzhou District, 327 km east of the downtown Chongqing Municipality, is in the Three Gorges area. Set as a county in 1928, it had the reputation of being "the Entrance to eastern Sichuan." Now two-third of the old town is in ruins. Its new site is removed from the dam area.



Many new houses have been built on mountains on both sides of the Yangtze River to resettle the people displaced from the affected areas.



Water level at 175 metres in 2009

Water level at 135 metres in June, 2003

Two huge water level signboards stood in the old town of Wushan County, indicating the place would be inundated after June, 2003 and 2009.

to bear fruit were gone too. There was only desolated land beside the "Daxi Cultural Site" ...

Just as these old towns vanish day by day, new modern towns emerge one after another, like mushrooms after the rain, in the valley area of the upper reaches of the river. The new county seat of Zigui is in Maoping near the Three Gorges Dam. Xingshan County of Hubei Province — hometown of Wang Zhaojun, court lady of the Western Han Dynasty who volunteered to marry a Xiongnu chief and helped form friendly ties between the court and countries in the Western region — was the last town to be moved in the dam area in Hubei Province. The county as a whole moved to Gufu Town 10 km to its northwest. The new address of Badong County Seat is in Yuntuo and Xixiangpo areas not far up the Yangtze River. Wushan County Seat retreated from the dam. Fengjie County Seat found itself in Kouqian and Sanmashan areas 10 km away from its old location. Yunyang moved to the Shuangjiang section in the upper reaches of the river; Zhongxian and Wanxian counties, with smaller swamped areas, also retreated from the dam; and Fengdu County will go south across the river.

The relocation work is like a battle going on in towns and villages to be submerged near the Three Gorges dam. A huge signboard of the 135-metre water line was erected on the hill to show that the place will be covered in water before long.

Built in the first half of the 20th century, the Bell Tower of Wanxian County is the local landmark. The tower has not been submerged as it is located in an elevated position in the county's Longbao District.





There is an old flagstone street in Shibao Town below Shibaozhai. The street is flanked on both sides by old and elegant houses built mostly in the Ming (1368—1644) and Qing (1644—1911) dynasties. After the Three Gorges Project is completed, the old street will lie deep in the water.



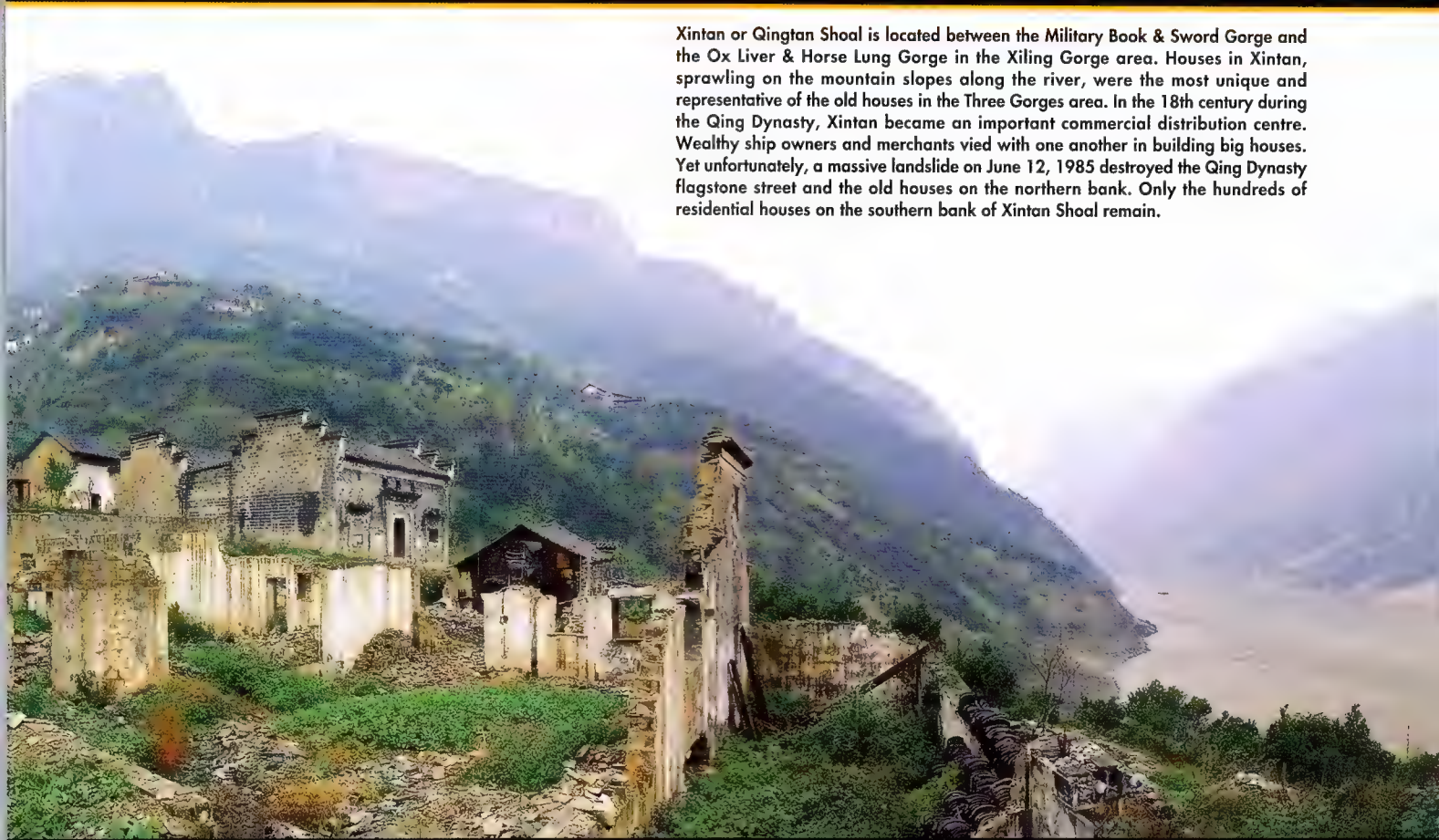
### The First Blast in Fengjie

The Yong'an Township Administrative Building and the thermal power plant in Fengjie were chosen to be the first sites for demolition in the Three Gorges Project, because these tall buildings were the landmarks of the old county seat. The time of blast was set between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. of January 20, 2002. I arrived at Fengjie at midday, the last reporter there. By then the streets of Yong'an Town were under martial law. A few engineers with walkie-talkies, all looking serious, were making the last arrangements before the administrative building. I hastened into a building nearby. Upon

The ancient Dachang Town is 130 to 140 metres above sea level. When the Three Gorges Project is completed with the lowest water level of 159 metres, the whole town will be inundated and so Dachang will be moved to Dengjialing three kilometres away.



Xintan or Qingtan Shoal is located between the Military Book & Sword Gorge and the Ox Liver & Horse Lung Gorge in the Xiling Gorge area. Houses in Xintan, sprawling on the mountain slopes along the river, were the most unique and representative of the old houses in the Three Gorges area. In the 18th century during the Qing Dynasty, Xintan became an important commercial distribution centre. Wealthy ship owners and merchants vied with one another in building big houses. Yet unfortunately, a massive landslide on June 12, 1985 destroyed the Qing Dynasty flagstone street and the old houses on the northern bank. Only the hundreds of residential houses on the southern bank of Xintan Shoal remain.



entering the gate, I spotted Zhang Quanling, an anchorperson of CCTV. She told me that there was a good site on top of the Construction Bank building where CCTV had set a camera.

Looking down at the riverside, I found there were crowds of local people on the site of the Eight-Unit Formation (an ancient battle array invented by Zhuge Liang and formed by eight fighting units which were represented by Heaven, Earth, Wind, Cloud, Dragon, Tiger, Bird and Snake). They came today not to meditate on its past, but to catch the last sight of the old town of Fengjie.



Fengjie, a well-known ancient town in eastern Sichuan Province, is located on the northern bank of the Yangtze River at the western part of the Three Gorges. The Yaokui Pagoda in the photo, also known as Wenfeng Pagoda, was built in the Qing Dynasty. This seven-storey hexagonal pagoda stands six metres high. Located right at the "water mouth" of Fengjie, the pagoda is a symbol of the county.



With the progress of the Three Gorges Project, Fengdu County Seat has been moved across the Yangtze River to the south, so the old Ghost Town of Fengdu is now in ruins.



Zigui, the hometown of the great poet Qu Yuan of the ancient State of Chu, will be moved to Maoping near the Three Gorges Dam. The area below the signboard of the 135-metre water line will be swamped after June 2003. It's not hard to imagine that after the inundation the river will become a large lake.



People are busy with resettlement work in the street of the old Yunyang County Town. Stores are having big sales before the relocation. The old houses by the river have already been dismantled, and so will be the houses in this street. The new county seat of Yunyang will be in Shuangjiang Township on the upper reaches of the Yangtze River.

*Sketch Map of the Three Gorges Project Region*



In order not to disturb the residents and damage buildings in the neighbourhood, the authorities of the project had decided to set off stratified directional explosions. At 1:40 p.m. the Administrative Building of Yong'an Township government was the first to fall, the right main part followed by the left part. After a few muffled explosions, the whole building collapsed and became a mass of ruins and soot in less than 10 seconds.





# BIDDING FAREWELL TO HOME



The local inhabitants whose families have lived by the Yangtze River for generations are strongly attached to their native land. All sorts of feelings well up in their hearts when the time comes to bid goodbye to their homeland. Especially once they are away, when it will be impossible to see their homes again because all will be covered in water. No wonder it is so hard for them to leave, whether it is a weather-beaten elderly person or a young child. The emotions are raw.

Old or young, no one can hold back tears at the time of departure.

I went to the Relocation Office of Wushan County on August 16, 2000, for a special assignment about the displaced people. Officials there told me that the relocated people mostly moved out in July and August because they had to get resettled before school started on September 1. I chose the place Daxi. Though not having the biggest number of emigrants, Daxi is a good example of the area as it is the site where ruins of Daxi Culture were found, and it is located at the eastern end of the Qutang Gorge.



This group of emigrants would move to Guangdong Province. Many fellow villagers came to see them off.



Farewell to home, farewell to the Three Gorges. Looking at the torrential river, the emigrants were extremely sad and melancholy.



Just before the boat left, the little kids couldn't help crying with their good friends with whom they played and grew up together, knowing not when they would meet again.



At 3 p.m. on July 18, 2001, the passenger ship *Fortune* berthed at the lower dock of Qingshi Town. The 62 residents of 12 households in the small town of Qingshi stepped aboard. People on the ship waved goodbye to relatives and friends, and also to the Goddess Peak.

### Township Farewell Party

To cover the relocation project in detail, I went to Daxi. The next morning, there were loud blasts of firecrackers in the town. I learned that they were set off by residents who were going to present a silk banner to the township government before departure to express their attachment to their hometown. Two elderly men walked in the front, holding a silk banner and looking very solemn. Two young men on their sides each carried a stick with many firecrackers attached. I walked with the villagers for some three kilometres along the river to the new building of the township government. By then the sounds of firecrackers were deafening. When the smoke had dispersed, I saw a man smilingly take the silk banner and call the villagers to come to the platform upstairs where there were placed



"Bon voyage!" The villagers were reluctant to leave, seeing the ship carrying these familiar faces away.



many long stools with large slogans on the rostrum showing respect for the residents. This was the farewell party the township government held for the people.

After the party, I came back to town with the locals. Walking slowly on the familiar stone steps, I noticed that many houses in the town were roofless — the roofs were dismantled by the local government to prevent the residents returning to live there again. The courtyards were packed with furniture and utensils. While adults were busy putting things in order, children were playing hide-and-seek around the broken walls. The stores in the town had all closed down.

### Bidding Goodbye to Ancestors

On my way back to the small boat, I met a crowd of people holding long colourful paper flags headed by the elderly man who had presented the silk banner to the township government. I was told that the elderly man, Mr. Yu, would go to offer a sacrifice to his ancestors with his brothers at his family graveyard on the mountain that afternoon, just as all the other folks would do to their ancestors for the last time before departure. At 2 p.m. some 20 people of the Yu family, old and young, went up to the mountain in the scorching sun to bid farewell to their ancestors, some holding paper flags, some with firecrackers or sacrificial offerings. The eldest brother



Qingshi Town will rest forever in the river. Some locals have built new homes on the high mountains. But many more people moved away. The young can hardly understand how deeply attached the elderly are to their native land.







A ship of migrants is ready to cast off.





On August 24, 2000, 261 people of 62 households from Daxi Town at the entrance to Qutang Gorge would leave their hometown and resettle in Lifu Town of Jingzhou City, Hubei Province. Never forget these people from the Three Gorges who have sacrificed so much for the Three Gorges Project.



Tears gushed from a girl's eyes at the departure of relatives and friends.



Standing on the steamship, the migrants looked reluctant to leave.



At the farewell party, children dressed neatly and stood at the front of the migrants' team. Maybe they didn't understand then the bitterness of leaving their hometown, but the experience of going fishing in the river with their fathers and taking a raft to school would stay in their memories forever.



These are the typical farm tools in the mountains of the Three Gorges area, but they may be of no use on the plains where they are going to live. Yet they could not part with their familiar tools.



Yu Shanjian knelt down with incense before the tomb, saying solemnly, "We are leaving our homeland for the construction in the Three Gorges. Now we are here to bid you the last farewell and pray for your blessing for our children in their new homeland..."

Then came the firecrackers. The deafening sounds echoed in the valley while the long paper flags on the tomb fluttered in the wind, looking somewhat desolate in the thin smoke.

### Playing in the Yangtze — Childhood Memories

When I returned to the boat, I saw a few naked kids playing at the stern. Seeing my camera, they jumped quickly into the river but showed their heads before long behind the little boat nearby, making faces at me. These kids didn't know the bitterness of leaving their hometown. The happiness of playing and swimming at the mouth of the Outang Gorge in the Yangtze River would be forever in their childhood memories.

I went to Shangxi Village on August 23. Walking a while along a mountain path, I saw a big steaming pot by the path, and sure enough, there was a wedding going on up in the mountain. I had seen quite a few weddings in the Three Gorges area, but this one was the most impressive, because the elderly Mr. Lu and his wife would leave their hometown the next day. As they watched their daughter walking away with a group of people, tears streamed down the old couple's cheeks...

### Coffins, Saplings and Pickle Cocks

On the motor barge mooring by the riverside, there were all sorts of family belongings: tables, chairs, timber, pickle cocks, bowls and

chopsticks, farm tools and bundles wrapped up in plastic sheets, all labelled with names. These articles would be moved to their destinations ahead of their owners and distributed together. Suddenly, two dark coffins came to my camera lens. I stood there for quite a while, thinking that the local people by the river referred to the coffin as the "big house." So they were moving their houses thoroughly.

On August 24, 261 people of 62 households from the Daxi and Longtou villages left their homes. Crowds of people stood by the riverside. Although most of the belongings had already been moved, almost every emigrant carried a lot of luggage, some with bedding, some holding saplings, while others with cats and dogs... They bid goodbye to their family and friends on the small dock, embracing each other while crying. Grey-haired elderly people, helped by their children and grandchildren, looked at their native land silently. Young mothers held sleeping babies in their arms, tears in their eyes. A few strong men watched the river flowing swiftly to the east, their eye sockets red.

With a long siren blast, "East Wind No. 2" slowly left the ancient Daxi Town. These 261 people would pass the Wuxia Gorge and Xiling Gorge before taking a bus at Yichang to their new homeland — Lifu Town of Jingzhou City in Hubei Province. The crowds seeing them off at the dock gradually dispersed, only a few old men were still blowing suona horns emotionally by the riverside.

Three days later, the dock of the old Daxi Town saw off again another group of 265 people of 68 households from Daxi, Longtou, Silong and Erlong villages. Their new homes are in Changfeng County of Anhui Province.



Just fetch some water before leaving. Pickles taste nice only made with water from the hometown.



## RESETTLEMENT OF A MILLION PEOPLE

Unlike other large-scale reservoirs in the world, the Three Gorges Project is located in a densely populated area packed with cities and towns. The population density is three times that of the average in China. The Three Gorges Reservoir covers an area of 1,084 sq km, and the total area of land to be inundated is 632 sq km involving 21 cities and counties in Hubei Province and Chongqing Municipality. Two cities, 11 counties and 1,680 villages will disappear under the water, together with total housing space of about 34.8 million square metres. The total population to be displaced, plus its natural growth, will be 1.106 million in 2009 when the whole

project is completed. So far, a million of people have moved out of the affected area to 25 provinces and cities in China.

The local inhabitants are resettled in the following ways: removal from the affected place and staying in the same area; moving within the same township, county and city; moving out to other provinces or cities; and moving in with relatives or friends and starting businesses of their own choice. There are different types of compensation: subsidies for housing, for fruit trees, for seedlings, for transportation, for migration, and for living. The policies may vary in different cities and counties according to different types of relocation. The local government will be responsible for building houses for the displaced people, who will then purchase the houses according to unified policy.

**Brothers of the Yu family went with their children to offer sacrifices and bid goodbye to their ancestors at the family tomb.**



Local inhabitants in the Three Gorges area refer to the coffin as the "big house." Now they were moving their houses thoroughly.

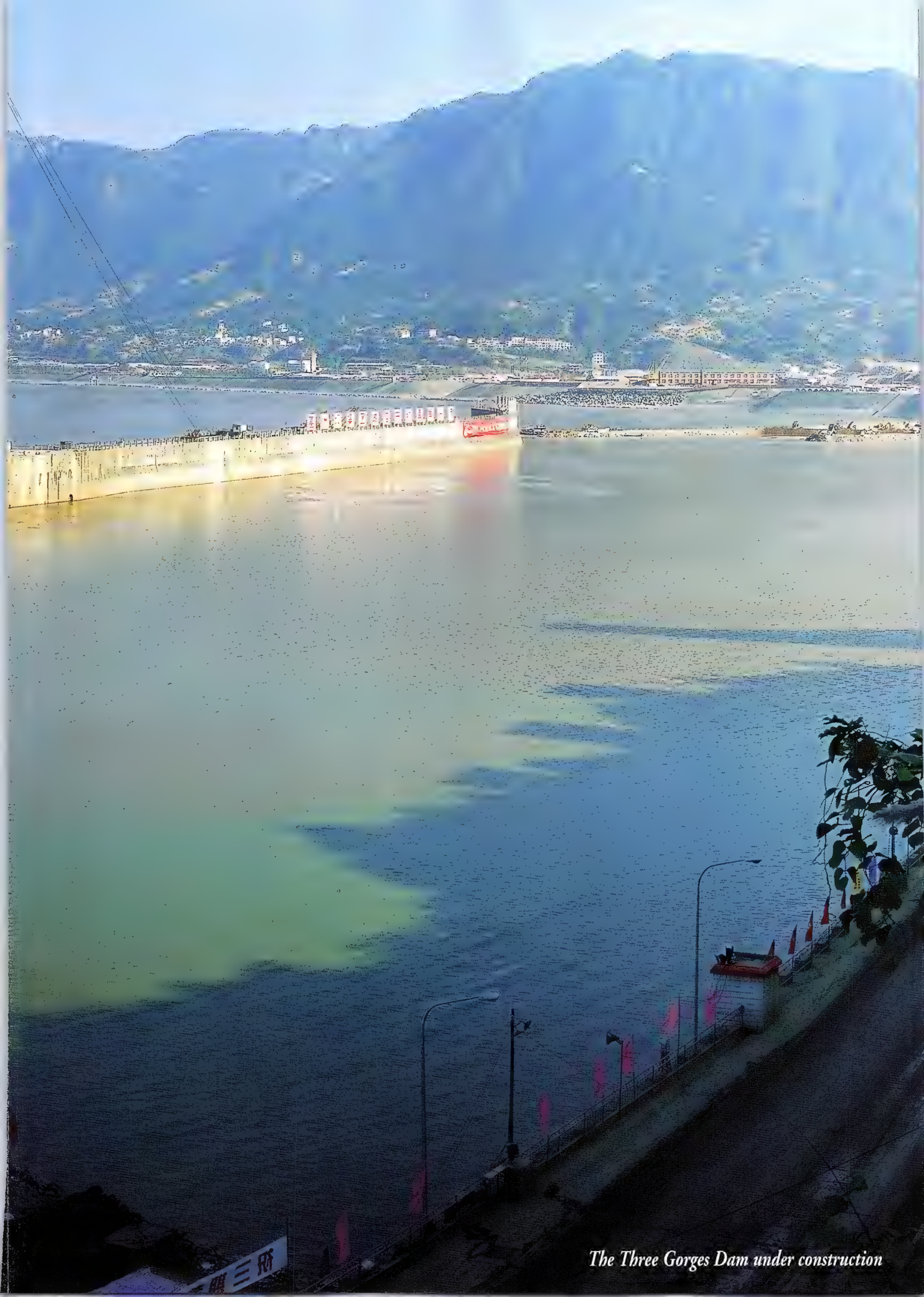


# SMOOTHING THE NARROW GORGES

There are few projects in the world that have taken 80 years to plan and build. After years of repeated debate by experts and professionals with opposite viewpoints, the case was won and the Three Gorges Project started. A huge hydroelectric station finally appeared to the east of the Xiling Gorge. The debate over its construction came to a halt and all will be left to the judgment of history.







*The Three Gorges Dam under construction*





1 600 metres

The final normal retain waterline — 175 metres

The waterline in 2003 — 135 metres

The summer waterline in Kuimen before June, 2003 — 90 metres

- Shibaozhai (Stone Treasure Villa)
- Fengdu
- Zhangfei Temple
- Fengjie
- Baidicheng (White Emperor City)
- Baiyanshan Grottoes
- Ancient plank way
- Ruins





Ancient Wushan Town



Xiangxi



Shennong Stream



Old Badong City



of Daxi

Lesser Three Gorges



Luyou Cave

Shennüfeng (Goddess Peak)



Zigul



Qingtian Shoal



Kong Ming Stele



Jiulong Benlang (Nine Dragons Rushing to the River)











葛洲坝集团三期工程再铸辉煌

中国水电基础工程局





China has suffered great losses from flooding. The middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River valley area in particular some of the areas most vulnerable to floods. As early as 1919, Dr. Sun Yat-sen, forerunner of China's democratic revolution, raised the proposal of building a big dam in the Three Gorges area to improve navigation and utilize the water resources of the Yangtze River.

In the last hundred years, innumerable scholars and experts devoted painstaking efforts to the Three Gorges Project. From 1954 with the start of the debate, project planning and design studies, 38 years passed before

Sketch map of the water-storage and flood-discharge capacity of the Three Gorges Dam.



An overview of the Three Gorges Project in construction.

Zhongbao Island, site of the Three Gorges Dam, in a satellite photograph.



approval in 1992 — a time span rarely seen in the engineering history.

The conclusion of the "Feasibility Study Report on the Three Gorges Project" revised in May 1989 was that the Three Gorges Project was necessary to China's modernization, technologically feasible and economically reasonable. It was better to build it than not to, and to build it earlier was better than later. The State Council then established the Three Gorges Project Appraisal Commission. The Feasibility Study Report was raised by 163 experts from various fields in the commission and was fully passed by the State Council. On April 3, 1992, the "Resolution on the Construction of the Three Gorges Project" was adopted in the Fifth Session of the Seventh National People's Congress. In 1993, the Three Gorges Project was in the preparatory stage. A year later, the project was formally launched on December 14, 1994, and entered a stage of massive construction.

The site of the Three Gorges Project was set at Sandouping Town in Xiling Gorge, 38 km from the Gezhouba Dam in the lower reaches of the Yangtze River. This ideal site for a high dam has excellent geological conditions, as it stands on rocks composed completely of amphibole plagioclase granite, with a terrain favourable for the project buildings and construction ground. The datum line of the dam lies between Fenziling and the Baiyanjian, and passes through a small island in the river, Zhongbao Island.

The Three Gorges Project is a massive water conservancy and hydropower works that will bring immense benefits in terms of flood control, generation of electricity, shipping, environmental protection, aquaculture and water supply. The project is composed of the dam, the power station, and the buildings for navigation. The Three Gorges Dam is planned to be 185 metres high, with a normal water level at 175 metres (relative to Wusongkou, the estuary of Yangtze River in Shanghai, interarea water level, same below). The water limit in the flood season is 145 metres, and the lowest water line in the dry season is 155 metres. Of the total storage capacity of the reservoir — 39.3 billion cubic metres, the storage capacity for flood control is 22.15 billion cubic metres. There will be 26 generators with a total installed capacity of 18.2 million kilowatt-hours and total annual generated electricity of 84.7 billion kilowatt-hours. Navigation facilities include a two-line five-step lock and a single-line vertical ship lift. The annual one-way throughput is 50 million tons.

The project will be completed in three stages. Firstly a cofferdam was set up along the Zhongbao Island in the river, and a

base pit was formed for the first stage construction on the river's right side. In the base pit an open flood-discharge channel was dug up, so was a temporary navigation lock. Closure of the river marked the completion of the first stage construction, which lasted from 1993 to 1997. The second stage started with the closure of the main course of the river at the end of 1997. In the second stage base pit, the dam with a spillway, the power plant on the left bank, and a powerhouse were built. The permanent lock was also set up. According to the plan, the second stage construction will be finished in six years, marked by electricity generated from the first group of generators in 2003. The third-stage cofferdam was built at the end of 2002 in the open flood-discharge channel to form the third-stage base pit. In June 2003, water was stored in the dam, electricity generated, and the permanent lock opened to navigation on a water level of 135 metres. The third stage construction is also scheduled to last for six years and end in 2009, during which the power plant and its section of the dam on the right bank will be built in the third-stage base pit, together with the completion of other constructions on the left bank. The whole project will take 17 years.

Calculated according to a prices standard test in China by the end of May 1993, the static investment for the Three Gorges Project is 90 billion yuan or about US\$11 billion. Fifty billion yuan is invested directly into the water conservancy project, and 40 billion yuan into the resettlement of residents. As the project will take 17 years, the amount of investment will increase with inflation. In addition, part of the investment came from loans that will produce interest. With these two considerations, the accumulative total dynamic investment will reach 200 billion yuan or about US\$24 billion by the time the project is completed in 2009.

## ZHONGBAO ISLAND

The Zhongbao is the only island in the Three Gorges. Some 34 km west of the Nanjinguan Pass, the 15,000-square-metre island takes the shape of a carp fish. A famous historic site, it has yielded, since archaeological excavations began in October 1979, more than 15,000 artifacts made of stone, pottery, bone and jade. As the Three Gorges Dam project was soon to begin, archaeologists worked at double speed and thousands more pieces of cultural relics were brought to light. Embodying ruins of the Daxi, Qujia and Longshan cultures, the island has provided valuable material for studying our ancestors who, 4,000 to 6,000 years ago, hunted, fished, gathered food and lived in the areas along the Three Gorges.

On March 1, 1959, Zhou Enlai, then premier of the State Council, set foot on the island on a geological study trip. He took with him to Beijing rocks collected on the island. Surveys and studies by specialists and engineers revealed that a section of 25 km near Sandouping along the Three Gorges is made of solid granite while the rest the area is formed by limestone and shale. To build a dam on the Zhongbao Island, therefore, would be the "will of god". Today, the dam has already been built and the island has forever been submerged.



The generator room in the dam is bigger than a football field.



## RECORDS SET AT THE THREE GORGES PROJECT

- It took 75 years from the proposal of building the Three Gorges Project to the beginning of the project.
- The total water storage capacity of the Three Gorges Reservoir is designed to be 39.3 billion cubic metres. The annual electricity generating capacity is to be 84.68 billion kilowatt-hours with an installed generating capacity of 18.2 million kilowatts.
- The dam project, including the non-spillway dam near both banks, runs a total of 2,335 metres. The sluice gate dam is 483 metres long. There are 26 electricity-generating units each with a capacity of 700,000 kilowatts, and a double-track, five-stage ship lock. Either in individual items of the project or putting all the items together, they mark the largest water conservation project in the world.
- The sluice gate of the Three Gorges Project has a capacity of 100,000 cubic metres per second.
- With a 113-metre water head, the double-track, five-stage ship lock has the greatest number of stages and highest water head of all inland river ship locks in the world.
- The effective measurements of the ship elevator are 120 x 18 x 3.5 metres with a total weight of 11,800 tons and a height of 113 metres. Accommodating ships of 3,000 tons.
- To complete the project, some one million local residents had to be relocated.



The foundation stone bearing witness to the start of the Three Gorges Project.



## L I N Y I S H A N V S L I R U I

Lin Yishan, once chairman of the Yangtze River Water Conservation Committee, is the man who gave Mao Zedong, then leader of China, the inspiration for building the Three Gorges Dam. Li Rui, one time Vice-Minister of the Electric Power Ministry and concurrently director-general of the Hydropower Administration, is the man who ardently opposed the project.

In 1956, Lin published an article running to 20,000 characters in China Water Conservation journal, elaborating his idea for the Yangtze River project and dwelling in length on the role and function of the proposed Three Gorges Project in taming and developing the river. In September the same year, Li Rui published his article in Hydropower Generation magazine, raising objections to Lin's proposal and suggesting that smaller projects based on the Wanshui and Wuqiang rivers be built instead of one project on the Yangtze. Thus began their long debate.

In January 1958, Mao Zedong put forward the Three Gorges Project for discussion in the Politburo of the Communist Party's Central Committee. He suggested that Lin Yishan be invited to the meeting too. Someone reminded

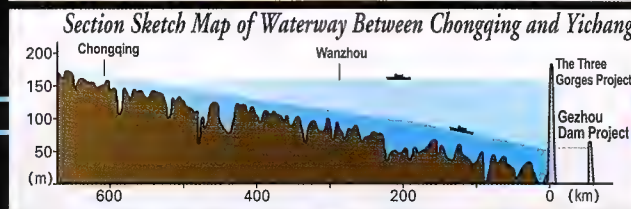
Mao that Li Rui was against the proposed project. So Mao said, "Then ask Li to come to." As a result, the two men with opposing views sat together in the same meeting. They argued heatedly, citing their examples and figures to illustrate their points without giving the other the upper hand. Finally, Mao asked each of them to write an article to be turned in three days later. When Mao finished reading these articles, he made a wishy-washy comment: "The central leadership has not decided to launch the project. I personally am interested in it. I now refer the matter to Zhou Enlai." Nobody was sure exactly what Mao's idea was. Li Rui, however, won Mao's favour and became his secretary.

In the afternoon of April 2, 1992, the fifth plenary session of the Seventh National People's Congress adopted the motion of going ahead with the Three Gorges Project with 1,767 votes for, 177 against and 664 abstentions. An additional 25 did not vote and failed to press the button of the voting machine. Hearing the result, the 81-year-old Lin Yishan, who had already lost his sight, was so excited by this that he could not hold back his tears. Li Rui still maintained his original position. On his sick bed, he said: "As long as I have one breath left, I will continue to fight against it."

In March 1993, Li Rui, in an interview with reporters, still did not approve of flood control as the main reason for building the Three Gorges Project, saying: "Conditions today are very different from those in the 1950s, but this does not mean there are absolutely no questions whatsoever in the economy, technology and eco-environment. Especially there are many key issues such as silt, on which it is hard to pass the final conclusions. In my view, we are better off to wait till the 21st century when all conditions are more mature before we decide to engage in the Three Gorges Project."



The inland river lock with the most steps of its kind in the world.



## MAO ZEDONG AND THREE GORGES PROJECT

In 1956, a poem by Mao Zedong entitled "Swimming" outlined the blueprint of the Three Gorges Project:

Walls of stone will stand upstream to the west  
To hold back Wushan's clouds and rain  
Till a smooth lake rises in the narrow gorges.  
The mountain goddess if she is still there  
Will marvel at a world so changed."

After the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, Mao boarded a Yangtze ship and set off from Wuhan on an inspection trip of the Three Gorges. He asked Lin Yishan, then chairman of the Yangtze River Water Conservation Committee, "China's south is rich in water resources while the north is short of water. Can the water from the south be diverted to the north?"

When Lin answered that it was possible to do so, Mao said while looking at the torrents in the Yangtze: "You start exploration immediately and write to me as soon as you come up with some material." Two days later, Mao asked Lin over to further discuss how to reduce the flooding along the Yangtze. As he stared at a map of the Yangtze River reaches, Mao suddenly motioned a circle around the entrance of the Three Gorges with his hand, saying: "Very good. Why don't we block this entrance and build a dam at the Three Gorges?"

In the next few years, Mao visited the Three Gorges three times. The natural disasters that befell China in the early 1960s slowed down preparations for the Three Gorges Project. On his 77th birthday, Mao gave his agreement to the "Report on Building the Gezhouba Dam Key Water

Conservation Project on the Yangtze River at Yichang". The construction of the Gezhouba Dam raised the curtain on the Three Gorges Project.

One afternoon in late February 1958, Zhou Enlai, entrusted by Mao Zedong, took more than 100 central government officials and water conservation specialists to the Jingjiang Dike and the Three Gorges to select the site for the key water conservation project at the Three Gorges. On March 7, Zhou spoke at a CPC Central Committee Conference that adopted his report on building the Three Gorges Project. Soon after the conference, he asked the State Commission of Science and the Chinese Academy of Sciences to immediately organize the project by drawing on all sectors of the nation for a concerted effort in undertaking the project.



# BOAT TRACKERS RIDING THE WAVES



The 90-year-old boatman of the Three Gorges Tan Bangwu tells the story of the boat trackers.

**A**s a lake emerges from the torrential waters of the Yangtze, boat tracking, an age old occupation, will forever disappear.

At Guanda, a 1,000-year old ferry port at the eastern entrance of the Wuxia Gorge, I got to know an old boatman called Tan Bangwu who had spent his entire life on the river. At 90, he is still in good spirits, energetic, witty and alert. He manages the boat as well as he has always done.

People refer to him as a "living fossil" of boatmen at the Three Gorges. Indeed, he has always lived there. He began to work on a boat with his father before he reached the age of ten and gradually mastered superb boating techniques. In his twenties, he became a captain and a real authority. He has been working in the Three Gorges for nearly 80 years and is a witness to the changes in water transportation along this river.

Tan told me that a boat had to pass 108 dangerous places including nine rapids and 13 small gorges from Yichang to Chongqing. Though he did not know how to read and write, he learned by heart the reminders for boating through this section. He could tell the story of each rapid. He said that crossing the rapids was

Dangerous rapids and shoals are scattered along the banks of the Yangtze at the Three Gorges. For centuries, boats sailing upstream, especially during the low water season, had to rely on the arms of boat trackers who trudged on the banks, towing the boat forward. Over time deep marks have been left on the rocks along the towpath. In a way, the indented marks on the rocks were carved with the blood and sweat of boat trackers, telling their story of the struggle with nature. As the dam is completed for water storage in the reservoir, these rocks on the towpath will be submerged and the marks on the rocks will only live in people's memories.

extremely dangerous and often boats capsized, throwing boatmen into the river. Sometimes, boat trackers' ropes suddenly broke and the trackers who had been putting in all their might to move forward plunged to their deaths on the rocks. Before passing each dangerous place, the boat owner would light incense and pray to the river god to



Boat trackers leave these indented marks on the rocks.





Boat trackers laboriously pull up on the dangerous towpath, pulling the boat forward.





Marks left behind by boat trackers sparkling in the sun, like golden rays.



The life of a boat tracker is a hard struggle with nature.



bles them with safe sailing. The boat trackers tied the rope around a pole by the river. Next the captain would keep watch on the direction, boatmen on the stern would push the poles into the river and the trackers pulled with all their might. At each step forward, boat trackers reigned in the ropes. Then the boat would breathtakingly begin to move forward. The entire process of towing the boat is a struggle with nature and can mean life or death.

### Life Is Cheap on the Yangtze

Among people working on the boat, the tracker's job was the hardest, their pay the least and social position the lowest. Apart from towing the boat, they had to do other jobs, such as cleaning, tying and untying the ropes. In the past, docks had special organisations providing trackers to boat owners. If a boat was to go from Chengqing to Yichang, the captain had to get his men in place. According to the water level and the weight of the cargo, he had to decide how many boatmen including trackers he would need.

As the boat sailed away, women sadly bid farewell to their men, whose lives on the huge

The slightest slip could send a boat tracker to his death in the river.



Though boat trackers pull very hard, boatmen still have to jump into the water to help when going through dangerous shoals.



Boat trackers have developed tough muscles.



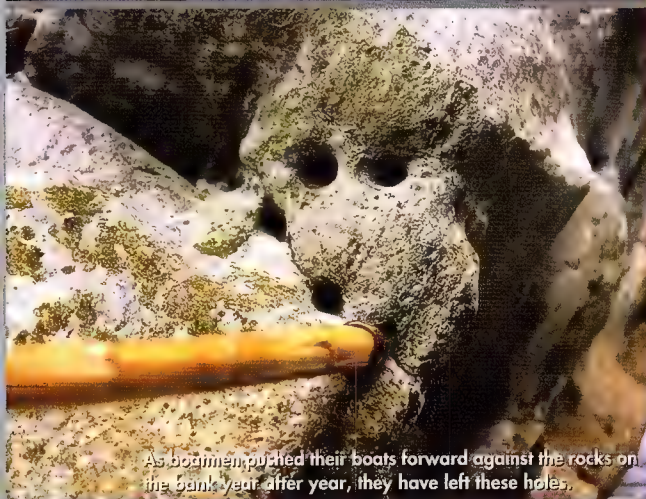
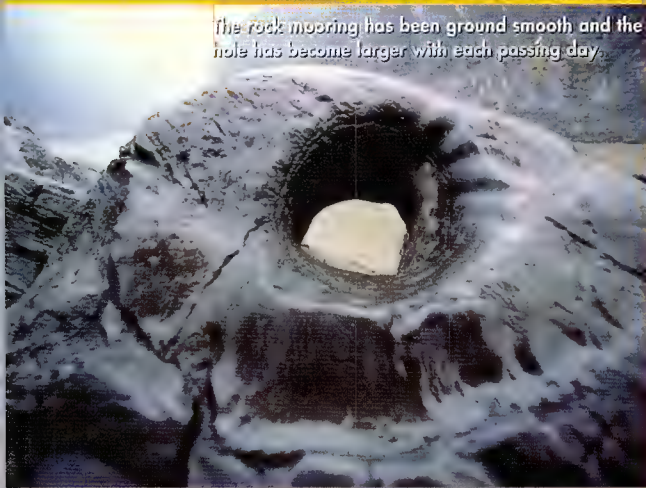
Working in the river barefoot, boat trackers suffer from foot injuries and ulcers.

waves left them, half in the human world and half in the afterworld. Nobody was sure when they would be united with their families again, a month or a year later. If there were a flood, the boat would have to float on the way. If they could not sail past a shoal, they had to wait for a strong wind to help. If they got stranded, they might have to wait there for six months. And of course, there were a multitude of possible disasters. In the past, many boats sank and crews died in the section of the Three Gorges of the Yangtze. Boatmen simply handed their lives over to the river god once they got on board. An old boatman told me that a boatman's life was worth only several hundred yuan.

At the beginning I thought it was because they were very poor that boat trackers worked naked, but there was another reason. They worked long years on the boat and in the water and therefore were constantly wet. Wet clothes sticking to the body would cause skin



The rock mooring has been ground smooth and the hole has become larger with each passing day.



As boatmen pulled their boats forward against the rocks on the bank, year after year, they have left these holes.

problems. Even in the dead winter, they still had to wade in the icy water and many of them suffered from arthritis in later life.

### The Origin of Spicy Chafing Dish

The delicacy of spicy chafing dish is said to have been invented by boatmen. After a day's hard work, it was a great joy and relief for the boatmen to sit around making chafing dish for a hearty meal. A lot of chillies and peppers would drive away the cold and damp. The chafing dish was easy to cook and made them warm. This is the origin of today's nationally famous delicacy "Chongqing-style spicy chafing dish".

I interviewed an old boat tracker at Nantun, the Xiling

## HAOZI — THE CHANTS OF BOAT TRACKERS

"Haozi", or the chanting, is a special language of boat trackers and boatmen. As soon as they start chanting "haozi", everybody immediately takes his place and focuses on the sail through the shoals. Along the Three Gorges, every now and then is a bend or a shoal. The captain has to remember clearly what techniques to employ when going through which shoal. In the past, there were no water level indicators and he had to rely entirely on his experience. Once they are safely beyond a shoal, their chanting of "haozi" becomes gentler.

The "Rapid Conquering Chant" is a thunderous work song sung when the boat sails upstream against rapids in the water. With a leading shout by the captain, everybody in the boat follows in unison to encourage themselves to cross the rapids. The chanting at this time is rapid too. The hardworking boatmen, the labouring trackers, the roaring river water and the heroic chant together create a gallant song of life.

The "Flat Rapid Chant" is sung when the boat goes through gentle waters. The song is typically rhythmic and lively. Once they start working on the boat, boatmen may not be able to take a vacation at home for several months. And chanting becomes their major recreational activity.

In the past, large boats always had leaders whose job was just to lead in the singing. He would have to decide which song to sing during which section of the sailing trip. Such a man made twice

the wages of other boatmen. In addition, he was entitled to two chicken eggs for breakfast. He did not have to row or pull the boat, but just sang, which indicated how important "haozi" was for the boats. The chanting had the function of synchronizing people's movements and plucking up their spirits. With the increase of motor-powered boat, men are no longer required and the chants are seldom heard now.



When the Three Gorges Reservoir is filled with water, boatmen will no longer have to work like this.



Gorge. He told me that they did not have enough to eat on the boat, but the work demanded energy. Empty stomachs, however, did not give them much energy. When a captain found a tracker not working hard enough, he would whip him on the back. So by and by, the helpless trackers found a way out. They picked pebbles the size of broad beans, washed them clean and put them in the wok to stir fry with ingredients. Then they put the stir-fried pebbles in an oilcloth bag tied on the waist belt. When hungry and tired, they would put a seasoned stir-fried pebble in the mouth.

Mr. Tan told me that boats in the past belonged to their organisations. Boat owners from the 24 counties in the Three Gorges were divided into eight groups, such as the Sichuan group, Chu group, Jing group and Yunkai group who had their group flags, regulations and a series of taxation systems. At the time there were many river bandits too, who often menaced small boat owners for money.

The Three Gorges mark the most dangerous section of the Yangtze River. To go upstream along the section from Yichang to Chongqing riddled with more than 100 rapids, the only power the boats relied on was human strength. The trip took at least two

weeks and sometimes up to several months to complete. "Day in and day out, trackers pulled the boats. The river water eventually emptied into the sea and taking with it,



As they struggle with the water, boatmen needed every bit of energy and stamina.

the untold hardships of boat trackers."

After 1949, many hidden rocks were removed with explosives. The navigation channel was also cleared. Winch stations were established to help the boats pass, making the passage quick and safe. Boatmen's lives began to improve too. Now the Tans own a dozen ships. His children and grandchildren ask him not to work any more at his age, but he still ferries his sheep across the river to graze them on the opposite bank. In the evening, he ferries the sheep back home. He said that since he had lived on the river all his life, he could not live away from the Yangtze. Some families had moved away from his town and his new home had just been completed up the hill, too.

Translated by Yu Ling, F. Huang

(The "Three Gorges Changed Forever" will be continued in next issue)

## ROPES AND WINCH STATIONS

The ropes used by boat trackers use to pull the boats are made of bamboo strips which are first boiled in limewater to increase elasticity. Boat trackers bend low, carrying the ropes on the shoulder, which stretch dozens of metres between them and the boat.

Accompanied by their heroic chanting, they laboriously move forward, leaving behind deep marks where the ropes rub the rocks.

The first winch station on the Three Gorge was built in 1828. At the time, it was erected on the bank and manually operated with a dozen handles, each pushed by eight to nine people. To help a boat across a rapid, it would take a hundred people working at the winch. Now this winch station has been buried deep in the mud at the bottom of the river.

With improvements in navigation and the development of mechanical ship power, many traditional winch stations have been rendered obsolete. Winch stations nowadays are all mechanically operated, helping boats to cross the rapids safely and quickly.

Ruins of a winch station on the Yangtze River.



Boat trackers have their own turf. This stone pillar buried in mud belonged to the Sichuan group of boat trackers.







A breathtakingly dangerous stairway goes up like a ladder to heaven, sending a chill through everyone who even looks at it.



# FROM THE AUTHOR: ZHENG YUNFENG



In this wooden junk, I lived on the river day and night.

Many friends ask me why I am so attracted to the Three Gorges on the Yangtze and how could I stay here for five to six years. Well, it all began more than ten years ago. At the time, as a photographer, I knew I had to go into nature and real life if I wanted to create artworks of moving images and themes. As a Chinese, I thought to myself, there were no natural forces more important than the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers in shaping Chinese culture. How do the two rivers girdle China? How did they shape the characteristics of the Chinese nation? To find out, I embarked on the arduous trip of exploration to the places of origin of the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers.

Six years ago, the Three Gorges Project was launched. I realized that I could not follow the original plan to take photos and therefore hurried to the Three Gorges to photograph what was soon to disappear. At the beginning, I rented a boat for my photograph trips, spending about a hundred yuan a day. I did not realize that the job had such a fascination that it

would get me totally hooked. When I arrived at the Three Gorges for the third time, I made a decision to have a boat of my own. Thanks to the assistance of local residents, I added my brand new wooden boat to the dock of Qingshi Town. There were two factors for choosing a wooden boat: one was that a wooden boat is warm in winter and cool in summer and the other is that it is closer to nature. In the last few years, I have been sailing back and forth in the river, day and night. To look for new angles to take

pictures, I have climbed almost every mountain peak along the banks of the Three Gorges with the reward of many beautiful pictures.

With the Three Gorges Project began the relocation of a million people. To capture everyday life, the ecological environment, customs and lifestyles of the migrants was a job of prime importance and great urgency. For the last few years, I travelled from town to town, living with the residents, going with them to worship the magic tree, picking oranges in the orchard, fishing in the river, and gathering firewood, until I bid them goodbye as they stepped on ships taking them to their new homes.

I will never forget Mr. Zou who treated my shoulder injury with liquor, Mr. Xiang who blazed the trails for me on the ancient plant path, Mr. Niu who helped carry my heavy camera bag and Mr. Zou, Mr. Huang, the father and son of the Xiangs who operated my boat for me.

I would also like to thank the port authorities of various counties along the Three Gorges for their generous support. According to regulations, my boat belongs to the fishing boats category and can accommodate four people at most. Under normal conditions, it could only be used for fishing in the designated areas under the jurisdiction of county authorities. When leaders of the fishing department of Wushan County learned of my situation,



I finally stand before the romantic Goddess Peak.

they made a special case to allow me to "go fishing" in a much larger area under the jurisdiction of the municipality of Chongqing. As I was busy travelling, I did not give much thought to the question of safety. Fishing boats are not allowed to carry passengers on the Yangtze River and I received warnings on several occasions. Once I went to the port authorities to inquire about the rapids in the river. As soon as I stepped into the office, a man asked: "Are you the journalist from the fishing boat?" Finding me puzzled, he said: "We have been watching you closely ... with our telescopes." Then he broke into a hearty laugh.

Mr. Wang, director of the Wushan port authorities, told me that there were many rapids in the river. There were also many large ships, the waves were high and it was very dangerous to travel on the river. Every year there were incidents of boats capsizing. He reminded me to be extremely careful. He also presented me with a navigation chart for the section between Chongqing and Yichang. I broke traffic regulations in Fengjie, Badong, Xiongxi and Maoping. But when they saw how intent I was on photographing their hometowns, they showed great understanding and lenience and offered me great help.

The Three Gorges Reservoir has begun to store water, and many cultural relics will be submerged forever. I will take more photos because the Three Gorges is going to be faced with an unprecedented change.



A little migrant from the Three Gorges.



# All Roads Begin from

## How to Choose a Pair of Suitable Shoes

Photos & article by Chan Yat Nin

A pair of comfortable and fit shoes is undoubtedly the most important thing for every traveller. Or, your interest of travelling can totally be swept away.

The quality of a pair of shoes does not depend on the price, but its adaptability to the local conditions of the destination.

When buying travelling shoes, one should consider of the road conditions, change of climate, and features of the activity en route, etc.

**Hiking Leather Boots:** The shoes have comparatively thick and hard soles which are durable. High upper of the shoes can protect your heels and prevent sand from entering the shoes. They are most suitable for long-distance and arduous trekking. However, they are relatively heavy and the high upper can easily hurt the skin. You may choose those made of suede or cloth, and match with a pair of socks which are longer than the upper of the boots.

**Cross-country Shoes:** Usually made of compound materials of leather and cloth materials, have deep pits which are slip-resistant. They are more ventilated than leather boots, and are more suitable for walking on different roads. But they are not as highly waterproof as leather shoes, except those with Gore-tex as vamp. Pay more attention to the patterns of the pits which feature different geology conditions.

**Running Shoes:** The vamps are usually made of compound materials of cloth and suede, which are light, soft, and well-ventilated. They are only suitable for walking on flat land and short distance, or activities with quick motion. The shoes are not durable as well as not highly waterproof.

**Sandals:** They are most suitable in raining season, or for wading through water and camping. Since they protect very small parts of the feet, never wear them when ascending or climbing mountains, or trekking.

**Wading-water Shoes:** They are specially designed for wading through water in mountains or for aquatic sports. Pay attention whether there are holes for releasing water from the sole and upper. The material of the vamp must dry quickly.

Cross-country shoes made of Gore-tex materials are water-resistant and protect the feet efficiently. With thicker soles, dense pits and nails, the shoes can claw slippery ground tightly and can prevent moving on crushed stones

# The Feet

Convenient and light mountaineering shoes have durable vamps and soles which can well protect your feet

Wading shoes have holes on the soles which water can release out

### Snow Ground Boots:

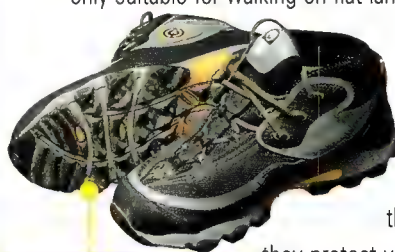
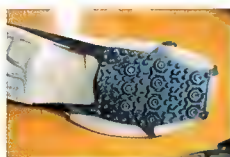
Usually with high uppers so as to prevent the ice from entering the shoes when stepping onto deep snow. Those with low uppers are suitable for walking on thin accumulated snow ground. The outer layer of the boots are water-resistant, and the inner layer can keep warm, while the soles own sucker-like plastic nails or iron nails to prevent slipping. Those used for climbing snow-capped peaks are added with sharp nails at the toe-cap to help the nails penetrate into the ice. Since snowy land boots are relatively expensive, you may just buy a set of claws which are cheaper (but the soles of the boots must be thick enough). And a pair of ice-skiing socks can keep your feet warm. To avoid ice or mud enter the shoes, you may add shoe covers which cover from the uppers to the shanks.

**Socks:** Socks for travelling are usually thicker. Nylon and silk socks which do not absorb sweat and are not impact-resistant are not suitable.

Pits under the widened soles of the snow ground shoes help you to stand or walk on the snow or muddy ground stably. It may be better to wear the shoe covers. The impact-resistant claws are specially added

When touring in the snowy area, you may wear a pair of thin socks in the inner layer and a pair of thick socks. The inner socks can be cleaned everyday, while the outer ones need not. The socks for wearing in snowy land are weaved thicker in the front, hence they can lower the pressure from the hard vamp. In summer, you may wear socks with thin surface and thick soles, so as to minimize the vibration and rubbing, and will not be too hot when walking.

Shoes specially designed for walking on muddy slopes boast big plastic nails







# The People of the Ergun River

Photos & article by Huang Yanhong

In the far north of Inner Mongolia lives a people like no other. Nestled in the Ergun River area near the border with Russia, they are a people formed by the accidents of history with their traditions and culture influenced by their unique background.

Since the late 19th century, the region has been the focus of attempts to conquer the wild borderlands, gold rushes and railway building, attracting large numbers of labourers from the rest of China. Early in 1910s, Shandong and Hebei provinces suffered floods and droughts, causing another influx of peasants hoping to make a living. These Chinese incomers were joined by Russians who came across the border to farm or mine for gold, as well as Russian aristocrats who fled after the October Revolution of 1917.

Far from their homes, it was only natural that the young Chinese and Russians would fall in love and marry to form many bi-cultural families, hence the appearance of a special group of Chinese-Russians. There are about 7,000 such descendants at Ergun River, who make their homes in the towns of Sanhe, Enhe, Jilalin, and Linjiang.

1. Enhe's orthodox cemetery—behind every cross is a story of hardship and tribulations
2. Ergun River is at its tranquil best in the mornings
3. Yang Yonggui in Jilalin is a first-generation Chinese-Russian, while his wife Ma Luxia is pure Russian. During the Cultural Revolution, the addresses of Ma's friends and relatives in Russia were burnt, so now they've lost contact. Before I left, Ma Luxia solemnly asked me to pass on the message: "Can you please help tell the powers that be that Jilalin closed the high school. Kids have to go to school at Ergun very far away and board there. It costs a lot of money. Also, electricity costs too much here, over 1.6 yuan for a kilowatt hour..."







with a wooden awning at the top, on which the deceased's name, dates of birth and death were written in Chinese and Russian. Some were only in Russian, while other graves had the identification cards of the deceased. The crosses were enclosed by blue or green picket fences, perhaps to prevent incursions by domestic animals like cows and sheep. This was the orthodox cemetery of Enhe Town, the resting place for the Chinese-Russians who lived and died here. Every year around the Bask Festival, the Chinese-Russians in the village gather here, to sing, dance and picnic, sharing their enjoyment with loved ones of another world. Here, the boundary between life and death, the gulf between joy and sorrow are obscured. Compared to our awe and reverence for cemeteries and death, they seem to hold a much brighter and more positive outlook.

**O**n the scheduled bus from Ergun (Labudalin) to Enhe, the view outside became more and more breath-taking the further we went, for this was the outskirts of the Greater Hinggan Mountains, with both dense forests full of larch and birch trees and golden pastures with rolling hills. After countless twists and turns, all of a sudden, a wide expanse of land came into view, and we were in Enhe.

### Picnics with the Dead

The bus stopped at the entrance to the village, I turned my head and saw the cemetery on the hill to the east. From afar, the crosses in the setting of the silent forest looked solemn, mysterious. I dare say it was the most beautiful and sacred cemetery I have ever seen.

The crosses were of the Russian Orthodox kind — two cross boards, one vertical, one diagonal — they were wooden, thick and heavy, covered

### Caught Between Nations

With the unforgiving passage of time, 80-year-old Yiwan is one of the few remaining first-generation Chinese-Russians in Enhe Town. He had a Chinese name — Qu Changshan, but everyone called him Yiwan. Enhe is a Russian style town; almost half of its 2,600 strong population







are Chinese-Russians.

Yiwan's home was on the street not far from the town hall; on both sides of the main gate are typical wooden Russian huts called "mukeleng". These timber homes are tin-roofed and moss grows on the wood. The only splash of colour can be found on the window frames. The spacious yard has room for an ironsmith workshop and horseshoe rack. Yiwan, who was already a happy great grandfather, spent his retirement years always busy with iron work, horseshoe making, mending rubber boots, fixing farm machinery...

"My hometown is in Hebei Province. When my father was 18, the flooding made it impossible to make a living, so he and seven other young men tried to make it past the east of the border, working along the way, they ended up in Manchuria. Soon after, Manchuria was hit by disease and many died. The young men didn't want to wait around for the killer virus to get them, so they crossed the border into Russia. Then the October Revolution of 1917 started, four of them joined the Soviet Red Army as well as the Soviet Communist Party. My father did not become a soldier. He was a gold miner in Russia. Later he met my mother, they fell in love and started a family. In 1922 I was born in Chita in the Soviet Union. When I was six, my father wanted to visit home and the whole family returned to China. In 1954, many overseas Russians went back. I also thought of returning, but

my father didn't let me. He said, 'No matter how great Russia is, it belongs to other people.'"

## Love in a New Land

There were also two pure Russian women in the town of Enhe, who were the real generation before the first Chinese-Russian children. From them, one can see what it was like when members of the two nationalities came together. Unfortunately, their husbands had passed away.



One of them was 70-year-old Daxia, who was born into a poverty-stricken Russian family. She reminisced: "Back then life was very hard. I started working when I was little, helping my mother make *lieba* (Russian bread)."

Now, her *lieba* is famous in the area and draws customers from near and afar.

Daxia was a special case. A child of the Russians who permanently resided in China, she married a Chinese in the 1950s. Back then Chinese-Russian marriages were very rare.

Daxia has no Chinese name. When scores of Russians returned home in 1955, her parents also left. Daxia couldn't bear to leave her new Chinese husband and her newborn child, so she stayed.

Daxia now speaks perfect Chinese: "We fell in love and got married. We never made it official at the registry, but we still spent a lifetime together."

Daxia's husband passed away one year ago, which explained why she could hardly conceal her grief when he was mentioned, a reflection of their deep relationship.

Another Russian lady was the 89-year-old Tanya, whose Chinese name was Shi Guorong. Often she had been mistaken for a Chinese-Russian. In fact, Tanya's parents were both Russians. When her father died, her mother crossed the Ergun River with her children to China to marry a Chinese man whose surname was Shi. Tanya recalled: "Stepfather could mine for gold and sing, including a number of Russian folk songs."

Unwilling to leave her Chinese home, Tanya refused to return to Russia when most Russians moved back home.

Now, Tanya lives in her own room. Her four children who live in Enhe take turns to bring her meals and sit with her till she sleeps. Then





they stoke up the fire for her in the morning.

Tanya sparked up when she heard I wanted to take her photograph. She put on her favourite sweater in excitement and combed her hair with her shaking fingers.

Daxia and Tanya have long held Chinese citizenship. Over the decades, hundreds of Russian women in the area gave up their original nationalities upon marrying Chinese men.

## The Attraction of Opposites

If not for all that I'd seen and heard, it was hard to imagine the educated Russian girls and Chinese farmers together, let alone joined in matrimony. Two vastly different groups of people, two entirely different cultures and customs, it truly was remarkable that they could come together in harmony. The men had brought to the union Chinese traditions and values such as thrift and hardiness, honesty and modesty, close family and friendship ties, while on the female side, Russian traits such as openness, optimism, elegance were just as valuable to the marriage, as well as their penchant for cleanliness. You notice upon walking into these households of Russian descendants, that no matter rich or poor, each family is clean and neat and flowers decorate the room. The white curtains are always drawn and you'll always find potted flowers on the windowsill.

With the huge gulf in customs and personalities, clashes were inevitable. Most Chinese husbands are understanding and tolerant, earning good reputations for not beating up their wives, but of course there are exceptions.

It was in Jilalin that I met Shula and her husband. A few old people were sitting outside the wooden fence in the sun. The eldest



in the group was an 84-year-old man called Liu Jincal, who left his hometown of Weiwu in Shandong Province when he was only 11. His wife Shula was a first-generation Chinese-Russian with the Chinese name of Yang Shugin.

They are like chalk and cheese: the husband a typical Chinese farmer, with strong values about family and homeland, conservative and conventional; his wife is extroverted, warm and sociable. Shula said: "Shandong men are as stubborn as mules. We've argued for years. He used to hit me quite often, but now he's too old and doesn't have the energy."

"Why?" I asked.

"Because I like dancing. Every time I came home from dancing, he hit me and asked me to swear I'd never go again. After a few weeks, I couldn't help but go again, and then he would hit me once he found out. What could we do? This is a favourite Russian pastime!"

However, the couple spent most of their lives together and relied on each other for company.

"The old man injured his leg some 30 years ago when he was crushed in a landslide during road construction. He also broke three ribs. I took care of him through it all..." Recounting these sad events, Shula wasn't at all heavy-hearted, but smiling gently as ever. Work injuries in those days were without compensation and one can only imagine the pain of the misfortune. Thirty years of hardships, so much torment, now flash by in her smile. Can it be that to this special woman, suffering and hardship are not carried as bitter memories?



1. Tanya, 89, outside her home
2. A picture of Tanya in her youth
3. Tanya's family portrait of around 50 years ago
4. In the homes of the elderly people are shrines, called "borika" by the locals. Icons are displayed as well as plastic flowers
5. Jilalin is a border town right next to Ergun River. Its former name was Shiwei, when it was a post for the Mengwu Shiwei tribe in the Sui and Tang dynasties. Of its 1,700 residents, 58% are Chinese-Russians. Across the river is the Russian Uluqi farming village, with over 1,000 residents. The building in the picture is the border control post
6. The afternoon milk collection is a major event. Strict tests are carried out







## Fifties Nostalgia

I met Yang Shuang at the Linjiang Town by the Ergun River. She was nine years old. Her home was on the side of the road, with a spacious yard and potted flowers everywhere. The house was a spotlessly clean typical "mukeleng" or Russian hut, with wooden floors and a shrine in the corner.

Her grandma Qu Shuangli was busy in the kitchen cooking the midday meal, and the men were all out preparing stock feed.

Yang Shuang took me on a tour of the vegetable patch, the cellar, and the bathhouse. This is a Russian-style bathhouse or "banya", now rare in the area. In a tiny room, a large iron pot of water starts boiling on a stone-covered stove hours before the bath. At the same time the stone is being heated. Then the water is poured on the stone to fill the room with steam, a "country sauna", if you will. In the banya is also a bunch of oak branches used for hitting the body to remove the dirt from the skin, but it is said to be also therapeutic.

Yang Shuang's grandpa Qu Jincheng had a name in town as a master tradesman. Whether it was ironsmith work, machinery repairs, panel beating, even playing the accordion, he was good at them all. He also played a few Russian tunes. His concentration and expression made it clear the music transported him to a happier and more innocent era.

He said he learnt the instrument in the 1950s when conditions were poor, with no electric lights. But young people were so happy. Every weekend they would get together for songs and dancing. That was the honeymoon period of China-Russia relations and the time that Yang Shuang's grandparents pined for.

Back then Soviet assistance was often received, most memorably in the spring of 1959, when the thawing of the Ergun river led to huge ice blocks congesting the waterway. Meanwhile the melting ice rapidly raised the river level, posing a serious threat to nearby villages. At this time of emergency, the Russians lent a helping hand. On May 1, the

Soviet air force dropped pamphlets telling locals not to panic and that there would soon be explosions on the ice. They sent bombers to blast the floating ice blocks. After completion of the mission, the planes dropped more pamphlets, on which it was printed in Chinese "Wishing our Chinese friends a happy May day."

Narrating the story, Qu Shuangli remembered it as clearly as if it was yesterday, her eyes crinkling in a smile at the happy memories.

## The Chinese-Russian Friendship Hotel

I stayed in Jilalin for three days at the Friendship Hostel next to the bus station, the tariff was a mere five yuan per night. The hotel owners were also Russian descendants. The wife was Yu Xumei, in her early 30s. To save time and effort, I decided to have my meals here too. The day I arrived was the Mid-Autumn Festival, but for the locals the biggest celebration of the year is the Bask Festival, so Mid-Autumn Festivities are usually casual and low-key. With a bright round moon hanging high in the sky, Yu Xumei and her husband gave up their own family reunion, sent their kids to stay with their parents, bought moon cakes and beer, and chatted with me deep into the night.

"I have never been a Russian. Being Han is fine. I was teased as a child for having light brown hair, and I never liked the Russian language anyway. The sentences seem too long and make me feel out of breath. Even when mum spoke Russian at home, I didn't like it. Later when I began dating my husband, the biggest concern was that he looked too much like a mix-blood. It's much better now."

The bill came to 40 yuan for my three nights and the meals. It was so cheap I felt embarrassed, so I included a 20-yuan tip.

## Setting up a Restaurant During Troubled Times

Almost by accident, I walked into Enhe Town's "Youyuan Restaurant" and met Ah Jing, a pretty and kind girl with a pair of large amber eyes that bespoke her heritage.

When asked why the restaurant was named "Youyuan" (meaning predestined relationship), Ah Jing hesitated before telling me how a Hong Kong girl called Wenjuan had come here on tour and lived at her mother's house, and they became good friends.

Wenjuan was very sympathetic to the plight of Ah Jing, who had virtually no means of livelihood after a failed marriage, so she suggested Ah Jing start a small restaurant. Soon after, she sent 28,000 yuan to support Ah Jing's venture. Ah Jing said, "Wenjuan doesn't want anybody to know this."

Ah Jing is a third-generation Chinese-Russian, her father retired early due to work injuries, so the burdens of the family fell on the shoulders of her mother. Times were tough, but her mother was a strong woman. She raised pigs and cows to support the family and pay







for Ah Jing and her brother's schooling. But to help ease the financial burden, Ah Jing volunteered to drop out of school once she got to eighth grade. She couldn't help but cry when school started and her brother went to classes. Her mother had serious asthma and could not go out in winter. Ah Jing became the main worker in the family. Winters were the worst, having to milk the cows in the blistering cold. Sometimes the cow teats were frozen, so the cows refused to be milked and in the tussle, the bucket was kicked over, losing half a bucket of milk. It was enough to bring Ah Jing to tears of anguish.

After having enough of beatings at the hands of a violent husband, she finally divorced and began a new life on her own.

Recently, I have talked with Ah Jing on the phone many times, aside from working hard running the restaurant and looking after her son, she also has a number of ideas, like picking fern vegetables from the mountains to sell to the Koreans and Japanese; she wants to set up a tourism company with Wenjuan, so more people go there; she wants to raise funds to develop a hot springs project hundreds of miles away; she wants to... All of these plans would help her pay back the investment in the restaurant.

She told me quietly that locals have a habit of eating out on credit, some do not pay their accounts even after a year, if ever. Feeling indebted to Wenjuan, Ah Jing wants to recoup the investment capital but things never seem to work out the way she wants to, her frustration is sometimes evident in her phone conversations with Wenjuan, but the other girl always says, "If you mention money again, we'll no longer be good friends."



*Translated by Cheng Lei*



## Travel Tips

### Transport

On daily flight from Beijing to Hailair cost 990 yuan;

To get to Enhe from Hailair, transfer at Labudalin, buses from Hailair to Enhe run half-hourly, (25 yuan), three buses run from Labudalin to Enhe (12 noon to 14:30), fare: 17 yuan; from Enhe to Jilalin, wait for the bus at the intersection outside the village, it comes at around 10:30 in the morning, buses from Labudalin to Jilalin pass here and tickets cost 15 yuan; buses from Jilalin to Mo'erdaoga depart daily at 8:00 and tickets cost 22 yuan; it is best to take the train from Mo'erdaoga to Hailair, departs at 13:46, sleeper berths cost 80 yuan.

### Accommodation

- ◆ (Hailair) Hulunbeir Hotel Standard room: 240 yuan; Beiyuan Hotel Standard room: 160 yuan;
- ◆ (Labudalin) Ya'ou Hotel Twin-bed room: 94 yuan; Liangmao Hotel Twin-bed room: 80 yuan;
- ◆ Enhe has numerous family hostels, charging 12 yuan per bed;
- ◆ Jilalin has the Shiwei Daluqiao Resort, 30 yuan/ bed; as well as other family inns like the Friendship Hostel, costing 5~10 yuan per bed.
- ◆ Mo'erdaoga has the Linyeju Hotel (standard room 120 yuan) Shanquan Hotel (standard room 80 yuan).

### Suggested Itinerary

Beijing — Hailair — Labudalin — Enhe — Jilalin — Mo'erdaoga — Genhe — Hailair — Beijing

**Hailair** : Nearby are scenic spots such as Jinzhanghan, Huhenuo'er, all of which will give one a taste of the grandeur and beauty of the Hulunbeir Grassland.

**Labudalin**: Where Ergun city is located, China Russia border tours can be arranged at the Heishantou port in the city.

**Enhe**: An elegant Chinese-Russian village surrounded by green hills, a small river winds its way through the grassland.

**Jilalin**: Its formal name is Shiwei, meaning "forest" in Mongolian. Among its 1,700-plus residents, 58% are Chinese-Russians. Across the river is the Russian Uluqi farming village, with over 1,000 residents.

**Mo'erdaoga**: The most beautiful forest of China's northern region, the fall colours of the foliage have captivated many photographers, the forest takes up 6,000 sq km, consisting mainly of larches, Mongolian scotch pines and birch trees.



1. A river near Enhe Village
2. In the music of the accordion, Yang Shuang's grandpa is lost in the past times
3. Yu Xiumei and her husband who run the hotel next to the Jilalin bus station are both Chinese-Russian descendants
4. After sunset, when the diners leave, Ah Jing, who has toiled all day, still has to chop the firewood



# Dining in Macao

Written by Felix Fung / Art by Yvonne Lee

In recent years, Macao has seen a mini-explosion of epicurean enterprises. Besides authentic Cantonese cuisine, there are the almost lost domestic Portuguese dishes, "Dai Pai Dongs" featuring night snacks, and every kind of Southeast Asian cuisine. Gourmets will be impressed with both the taste and presentation of the food.

## Real Shark's Fin Soup San Tou Tou Restaurant

After 31 years in the business, San Tou Tou Restaurant is deservedly one of the best-known old-name eateries in Taipa. It is also Taipa's first air-conditioned restaurant. San Tou Tou mainly serves old customers so it can afford to be meticulous, preferring to uphold stringent standards in quality rather than price-cutting to compete with rivals. For example, in the "Shark's Fin Chicken Claypot" dish that guests come to Macao for, the restaurant uses the pricier yet more chewy and better textured unprocessed shark's fin.

San Tou Tou Restaurant can be found within a four-storey "Tong Lau" (old Cantonese building). It blends into the neighbouring streets, which are a reminder of Guangzhou or Hong Kong in the 1940s and 1950s: quiet, unassuming, tasteful and charming. Mr. Liang Zhongxian, the owner confided, "Because of space and personnel constraints, we keep a low profile so the food quality is not compromised."

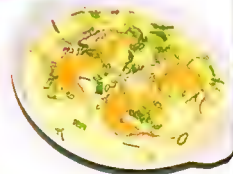
Aside from its shark fin soups, San Tou Tou Restaurant also specializes in the two-course crab medley, "Stir-fried Bitter Gourd and Crab" and "Steamed Crab Shell with Egg". Another dish that must be tried is "Braised Wax Gourd with Waterfish". The waterfish, seasoned with ginger slices and other condiments, creates a harmonious symphony, while the ginger gains a marvelous texture after being soaked in the fresh juices of the waterfish. Last recommendation for gourmands has to be "Stir-fried Shrimp Paste with Water Convolvulus", the simple yet wonderfully unforgettable stir-fry uses a

Macao specialty-shrimp paste, the unique flavour of which is perfectly complemented by the crisp and crunchy water spinach stems.

"Shark's Fin Chicken Claypot" uses the pricier but more flavoursome and better textured "pocket fins", at MOP\$680 per small pot



House specialties "Stir-fried Bitter Gourd and Crab" and "Steamed Crab Shell with Egg" create two gastronomic delights out of one crab, MOP\$128



San Tou Tou Restaurant is located in a nostalgic four-storey "Tong Lau"



Add: 26 Rua Correia da Silva, Taipa, Macao Island  
Tel: (853) 825 090/ 825 065/ 827 311  
Business hours: 11:00~22:00 daily

"Braised Wax Gourd with Waterfish" MOP\$180 for a small pot





# Satisfying Macao Bone Stew

## Sun Yat Restaurant



"A Bowl of Loose Sand" is a tasty concoction of red, gold and green, MOP\$68

The Sun Yat restaurant has become one of the best-known restaurants and supper venues in Macao since opening 10 years ago.

As for the food, Sun Yat is excellent value for money. Servings are generous but the prices are affordable, and the owner Mr. Zhang Yingxia has an interesting name for each dish, such as "Thousand Wonders and Rice Wine Chicken Claypot" and "A Bowl of Loose Sand". The former is cooked for hours with rice wine, chicken pieces and medicinal herbs

— a variety of ingredients makes it ideal for post-natal women. While "A Bowl of Loose Sand" comprises clams and other seafood, quickly tossed in the wok with julienne green and red peppers and egg, the appetizing colours and the delicious

seafood will satisfy the fussiest palate.

But the highlight at Sun Yat has to be "Original Macao Bone Stew Claypot", simmered with corn and dried bean milk cream in tight rolls, the pot uses three types of pork bones-cartilage, knuckles and leg bones, and it is served in a special utensil that separates the different bones, straws are provided for customers to suck out the bone marrow. "Twin Flavour Pork Cutlets" and "Braised Prawns with Cheese, Mashed Garlic, and Butter", priced at MOP\$35, are highly popular among patrons.



"Macao Original Bone Claypot" marries pork cartilage, knuckles and leg (MOP\$188)

"Thousand Wonders and Rice Wine Chicken Claypot", MOP\$110 for half, MOP\$138 for a whole chicken



Sun Yat's food is five-star quality at affordable prices

Add: 1B UG, Bldg 1, local village in Mong Há, Macao Island  
Tel: (853) 481 046  
Business hours: 18:30~4:00 daily



# One Hundred Percent Thai

## Royal Thai Delicatessen



The dish "Prawns Marinated in Fish Sauce" is eaten raw and tastes irresistible (MOP\$60)

One of Macao's latest hotspots is the area around the Dynasty Plaza. Every night the area is packed with eateries, bars, restaurants and bistros, which are open till the wee hours of the next morning, making it the hottest place to spend the midnight ramble. The daily arrivals in town.

Here you will find a three-year old eatery promising nothing but pure Thai delights — the Royal Thai Delicatessen. One of its distinguishing characteristics is that the dozen or so staff, from the manager and chef to the waiting staff, are all Thais who speak fluent Cantonese, so fun is its name: the culinary masterpieces are 100% Thai style. More importantly, most of the ingredients are flown from Thailand three times per week to Macao to act even authentically in accordance with the restaurant's name. On display are photographs of Thailand's kings from the last to the next.

Social Manager, manager of the restaurant tells us that many

toodies from Hong Kong come here, especially for supper. The Thai embassy in Hong Kong has awarded the eatery hygiene and courtesy prizes. While companies often book the place for banquets and parties. Many of the restaurant's house specialties are reasonably priced.

The "Hot and Sour Fortune Fish" is good valued at MOP\$90



Add: A1~A4 R/C, 475~479  
Dynasty Plaza, Rua Cidade de Santarém, Macao Island  
Tel: (853) 751 989  
Business hours: 18:00~5:00 daily



Hong Kong foodies love to come here for midnight supper

Special Thai iced drink "Strawberry Mint Juice" (MOP\$12)



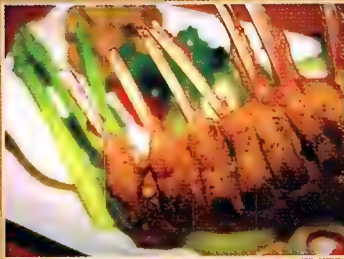


"Goose Liver and Steak Cooked on Volcanic Rock" is a treat at MOP\$150, especially the goose liver with its crisp yet tender texture



## Primitive Cooking

# Volcanic Rock Barbeque Delights



Volcanic rock fillet steak (MOP\$88), served with hothouse mushrooms, asparagus, onions and more



"Bali Prawns" (MOP\$68)

The stone barbecue that's been so popular in Japan and the U.S. can now be found in the New Port (Porto Exterior) Area. The owner, Mr. Teo Hong Sam, is a chef with many years of experience in Japanese restaurants. He is a master of fusion Japanese and Chinese cuisines. The stone barbecue is one of the recommended treats.

The so-called stone barbecue is simply cooking raw meat on heated volcanic rock. No ordinary rocks are used. The restaurant has chosen Australian volcanic granite rocks, which must be heated for at least 10 hours in ovens over 400°C. The meat is retained for 45 minutes out of the oven. There are six sauces to choose from: black pepper sauce, thousand island dressing, hotsauce, pepper and sesame sauce, garlic, and shrimp sauces. The oil-free cooking means it's healthy and customers can savor the delights of cooking to their own liking.

With the above three delicacies, "Vanilla Cheese Escargot Bun" (MOP\$48) and a Taiwanese drink such as "Green Apple Green Tea With Coconut" or "Long'an Green Tea" (MOP\$18 each) for everyone, you'll get change from MOP\$400 for a table full of food

Add: 363, Shop O, Wak Dor Lei Centre, Alameda Dr. Carlos d'Assumpcao, Macao

Tel: (853) 753 230

Business hours: 11:00-00:00 daily

The range of desserts make it difficult to choose — marble cake and pineapple cake to name but a couple

Restaurant owner Nêu has his own beliefs on the art of dining and food

## Portuguese Home Cooking

### Nêu



Specialty coffees are served in Nêu's customised cups and saucers

Nêu has put his family's precious silver ware on show in the restaurant



"Nêu" stands out due to its authentic Portuguese cuisine. Everything from its decor and ornaments to the service all suggest elegance. Even the restaurant name "Nêu" is original. It is the owner's name (Nêu Estabelecimento de Comidas, his Chinese name is Wei Lun). Nêu is a Macao-born Portuguese, whose interest in cooking has grown since his childhood, when he would watch his mother and grandmother cook up a storm of Portuguese fare at home. After retiring from a career at the Department of Education, Nêu noticed the unfortunate trend of Portuguese cuisine being bastardized and even disappearing from the food scene, so he started up this Portuguese restaurant last September.

Nêu specializes in buffets (lunch is MOP\$60 per person, dinner is MOP\$80), a la carte menus can be ordered one day ahead. Nêu tells us: "Portuguese desserts are scrumptious. Creme brulee, marble cake, and pineapple cake are just a few well-known ones. We cook according to the season and occasion, a Portuguese shrimp salad is so refreshing in a scorching summer, and my Cheese meat sauce together with Portuguese tomato rice stew is very special."

Add: Rua Cidade de Braga, NAPE, Loja "AX" R/C, Vista Magnifica Court, Macao  
Tel: (853) 752 548  
Business hours: 12:00-14:30 (lunch); 19:00-10:30 (dinner)



Nêu is known for its elegant interior, decorations and flawless service



Nêu's exterior and interior are both set in blue



## "Once Start, Never Stop" — Taipa Nougat Candy

Many an old Hong Kong resident would know the name "Cherikoff" as a great baker, the patisserie is just as well known for its nougat, or milk candy. But now the sticky sweet stuff is selling fast in neighbouring Macao. Cherikoff's location in the small street of Rua Direita Carlos Eugénio can be reached easily by walking up a set of pretty tree-lined steps.

Macao's Cherikoff nougat candy comes in distinctive purple packaging and has undergone continuous improvements by the owner Lun Jinjun, it comes in a variety of flavours including pineapple, chocolate, orange, cashew, peanut, coconut and more, in addition to the original flavour. Large bags are priced at MOP\$25, while small bags cost MOP\$13. They are sold in over a hundred outlets in Macao.

At the 2001 New Year's Eve flower market, Macao's Chief Executive Edmund Ho Hau Wah passed the Cherikoff stall, picked up a piece of nougat candy and said, "Once start, never stop." This phrase became the marketing slogan for Cherikoff for a time.



Master Wu's luxury nougat is made completely by hand



Nougat candy is made from cashews, peanuts and other ingredients mixed with syrup, then hand-moulded



Eye-catching poster of Macao's Cherikoff candy shop

Rua do Cunha has a number of gift shops, it's also where the Cherikoff branch is located



Add: 104, Rua do Cunha,  
Taipa, Macao  
Tel: (853) 827 811  
Business hours: 10:00~  
23:00 daily

## Travel Tips

### Transportation

- There are ferries going between Hong Kong and Macao every 15~30 minutes daily. Duration: 1 hour.
- Turbo Jet: Hong Kong to Macao (weekdays) Deluxe seat: HK\$233; Normal seat: HK\$130; (weekends & holidays) Deluxe seat: HK\$247; Normal seat: HK\$141; (night service) Deluxe seat: HK\$260; Normal seat: HK\$161
- Boarding place: Hong Kong-Macao Ferry Terminal at Shun Tak Centre, Sheung Wan/ Macao Ferry Terminal, Outer Harbour
- Website: [turbojet.com.hk](http://turbojet.com.hk)
- Reservations: (852) 2921 6688 • Enquiries: (852) 2859 3333

### Accommodation

#### Macao Mandarin Oriental Hotel

Features: Located in the city centre, with convenient access to transport. Boutiques in the lower ground lobby and the hotel's classy restaurants offer Italian, Chinese and Thai cuisine to cater for every palate

Add: 956~1110 Avenida da Amizade, Macao Tel: (853) 567 888

Rates: (Thur~Sun) HK\$720/ (Fri) HK\$940/ (Sat) HK\$1,370

#### Pousada de Sao Tiago

Features: Secluded, if using the full range of facilities is not enough, afternoon tea at the hotel's al fresco cafe will lift anyone from the doldrums

Add: Avenida da Republica, Fortaleza de San Tiago da Barra, Macao

Tel: (853) 378 111

Rates: (Thur~Sun) HK\$620/ (Fri) HK\$1,320/ (Sat) HK\$1,650

#### The Westin Resort

Features: Close to beautiful black sand beaches that are jam-packed during holidays. Sports fans will rejoice in the hotel's eight tennis courts and the only hotel golf course in Macao

Add: 1918 Estrada de Hac Sa, Coloane Tel: (853) 871 111

Rates: (Thur~Sun) HK\$850/ (Fri) HK\$850/ (Sat) HK\$1,210

#### Hyatt Regency

Features: Situated next to the Macao-Taipa Bridge, convenient transport access, comprehensive recreation and entertainment facilities. Hotel has free shuttle buses, tourism and nanny services, suitable for families.

Add: 2 Estrada Almirante Marques Espartero, Taipa

Tel: (853) 831 234

Rates: (Thur~Sun) HK\$500/ (Fri) HK\$500/ (Sat) HK\$880

### Useful Telephone Numbers

Macao Government Tourist Office (tourist assistance hotline): (853) 340 390

Macao Consumer Council: (853) 307 820

Macao Policia Judiciária: (853) 573 333



# New Lives in Northwest Yunnan



*Travel is not just a collection of happy memories. It can also change our lives. Two young women discovered this for themselves after touring the ancient Lijiang city and Lugu Lake, areas they had long dreamed of. They decided to stay and work as volunteer teachers for local children, starting significant new chapters in their lives.*

## A Tongan Local in Lijiang Isapeli Manukailea

Photos by Wang Changshan Article by Chen Xiaobo

**T**wenty-six-year-old New Zealand woman Isapeli is a voluntary worker in an orphanage. She is very busy, teaching, working for charity sales, receiving guests and translating. Her clothes hang loose on her tall body. Her well-tanned face never misses a smile. She speaks perfect Chinese.

She is from Kingdom of Tonga in the Pacific Ocean. Several years before, her family had migrated to New Zealand. She has a big family: parents, four elder brothers and one younger. They have a farm there.

### Dancing the Days Away

After she heard of beautiful Lijiang from friends who travelled here, she came alone in August 1999. She spoke no Chinese then,

she had no Chinese friends. She began learning Chinese in Lijiang Education College. At that time, besides her, there were 18 others from the United States and Singapore. After she finished her studies, she decided to stay. She loved the scenery; small but exquisite bridges over brooks, and magnificent snow mountings not far away. All these resembled her dream home. Naxi people were polite, civilized and well off. They enjoyed good food and their homes were very clean. This small town in remote Southwest China is not cut off from the rest of the world. "We have broad band here," she says proudly. "Even New Zealand doesn't have that." Because "He" (和) is a popular local surname, Isapeli has it before

her Chinese name. Her job is unpaid, but she has done it for more than a year.

That orphanage is in an ancient house of typical Naxi style. It is very spacious and clean. Yellow corn, red peppers and white garlic hang under the eaves. Red lanterns bring it alive. The ground is covered with fresh flowers. Orphans from over 50 ethnic groups stay here — Han, Naxi, Tibetan, Yi, Pumi. The accommodation and environment make children here happy and open, unlike many orphans. They laugh a lot, hanging around their teacher Isapeli. She is more like their friend. From Isapeli, they learn beginner's English. They work hard, for Isapeli is a good teacher, and never fails to honor her promise that "the best student



gets candy." Besides English, they learn a peculiar dance from her. Eyes closed, they do improvised but fun moves. During breaks, they cling to her. At those moments, Isapeli is just one of them. "I pour myself out to them," she reveals.

She has a well-packed schedule in Lijiang. During the day, she is busy working. In the evenings, she associates with Chinese friends over coffee and tells stories. She has little to do with foreign tourists. She has learnt a local dance that she and her Naxi friends perform

around a bonfire in Sifang Street. She and her friends established a hotel business in the town, where she does some management work. She wants to get a Chinese boyfriend, a northeasterner. "Northeasterners are tall and open," she said.

### Treasured Memories

Her parents miss her a lot, Isapeli says. They look on Lijiang as the end of the world. Occasionally, but not very often, she feels homesick and lonely. "This doesn't last long,"

she says. "Snow mountains not far away and the babbling of brooks put an end to that. Also, passing the time in a friend's house for dinner helps too. This place has become my hometown. Before long, I will bring my parents over for a visit." She believes the stay here will leave her treasured memories and have an impact on her later life.

The only worry she has, if any, is her weight. "I have to lose some," she said. "I envy Chinese girls, their slim bodies." Every morning, Isapeli walks from the new town to the old town where she works. She just has vegetables for dinner, staying away from meat. So far she has lost three kilograms. But when someone suggested to her a drastic idea for losing weight by climbing mountain, she firmly refused. "No way," she said. "I'm not a mountain climber, I grew up by the Pacific Ocean."

When she walks in the street, people greet her, and she will occasionally stop for a chat. In her spare time, she sometimes will stop at a coffee shop. But she makes it clear that she is a local, not a tourist.

1. Isapeli, a Tongan woman, has fallen in love with Lijiang
2. Chan Chi Kin, a Hong Kong woman, came alone to Tuozi Village, Lugu Lake area, to work as a volunteer pre-school teacher
3. In her spare time, Isapeli stops at a coffee shop
4. The orphanage Isapeli works for is inside a Naxi-style ancient dwelling house, The accommodating environments make children here happy and open





# A Hong Kong Lady Leaves the City Lights Chan Chi Kin

Photos by Wang Changshan Article by He Xinyun

**C**han Chi Kin, a young Hong Kong woman, thin and fragile looking, approaches us in the cold wearing only sandals on her feet. People said she was ill today, and took a day off from her class. She works as a pre-school teacher in Tuozhi Village in Lugu Lake area.

The village is inhabited mostly by Mosuo people. In her class, the students are from different ethnic groups — Yi, Tibetan, Han, Naxi, Pumi and Li. The local lifestyle of caring, extended families envelops everyone in the village. Everyone is gentle and caring and shy. "The children are mischievous," Chan says, "but also shy."

## A Pre-school Teacher

It is Saturday. Chan tells us she wants to make up to the class she had missed. She

asks us to wait for her in front of the classroom. Her students have long gathered there waiting for her.

I tease the kids. "What if Chan fails to come? Can I work as your teacher?" At this, one child demands, "Can you speak Mandarin like she does?" It seems Chan's Hong Kong-style Mandarin is a prerequisite for any replacement. "Why not give her a happy surprise with a loud greeting when she comes?" I encourage those kids. Some shake their heads, some grin. Just then, some of them jump up and run away, followed by all the others like frightened birds taking flight. "Miss Chan!" they shout at the top of their lungs. They throng around her, vying to hold notebooks and her cup for her. Those lucky ones look so happy, as if having received a reward. In brilliant



sunshine, Chan smiles, leading the crowd into the classroom.

The first time she came, children didn't







remote area. She has nobody to learn from. She says she had poured herself out to them, all her feelings.

Why did she come, I ask. The reply is unexpectedly simple. She had planned a half-year tour. She had seen a documentary film about the Mosuo people in Hong Kong. So she came to Lugu Lake. On hearing of a charity school here sponsored by several Hong Kong people, she applied for a position. She was assigned to this village to be a pre-school teacher.

As one of the founders of the program, Zhou Huashan, a Hong Kong scholar, exclaims, "Who would think that in a commercial, practical and material place like Hong Kong, there would be a simple person like Chan?"

Chan is satisfied with the arrangement. She is able to experience a different life, doing whatever she wants. In Hong Kong it was different. She had to finish many tasks with tight deadlines. She had no spare time. Now she has time to feel, experience and take a rest.

1. The crude lodgings in the village have failed to dim Chan's enthusiasm
2. Chan leads a group of children during an outdoor activity
3. In the children's minds, Chan belongs to them
4. Chan makes school a happy place by encouraging the children to play games
5. Chan enjoys the vast space and simple lifestyle beside Lugu Lake



All the villagers like Chan. A young woman, away from her family, coming here and having to learn everything. The villagers appreciate the hardship, but they don't understand much about teaching. All they want is their

understand her Mandarin. They repeated whatever she said. "Attention, be quiet," she said. And the children repeated that. Once, Chan told them to have a break. They seemingly understood, but all picked up their satchels and left for home. Chan had to get helpers to get them back. Some of them returned after a long walk. Getting them back was difficult.

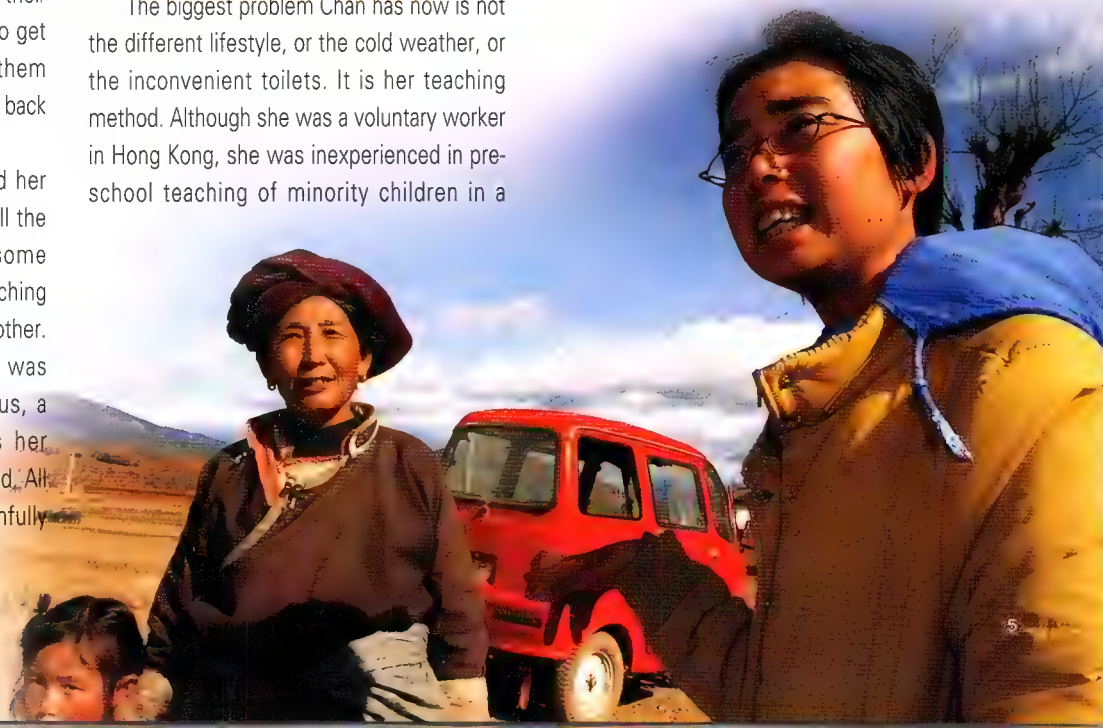
During break time, children called her loudly. They demanded her attention all the time. Some hid behind the door, some brought her flowers, or carried her teaching aids. Some jostled and poked at one another.

To the children, at school Chan was theirs. While Chan was chats with us, a chubby little boy anxiously brings her attention to the pebbles he has collected. All of us smile. At this, the little boy bashfully covers his face with hands.

kids able to speak a little Mandarin and be literate.

### Living for the Children

The biggest problem Chan has now is not the different lifestyle, or the cold weather, or the inconvenient toilets. It is her teaching method. Although she was a voluntary worker in Hong Kong, she was inexperienced in pre-school teaching of minority children in a







A Style of His Own

# Simon Yam

Photos by Chan Yat Nin Article by Helen Lee

When I made appointment with Simon for an interview, he readily agreed and immediately suggested the venue and time. His enthusiasm was already making things easier. On the day in May we met, he even arrived earlier than me. The actor who has been in show business for almost 30 years left this reporter—whom he had never met before—deeply impressed with his virtue of treating everyone sincerely and respecting their profession.



In 2004, Simon Yam Tak Wah would have worked in the entertainment industry for 30 years. The experienced actor is also generally recognized as a “cool guy” and “Mr. Kind”. Since jumping from TV to film in 1989, he has played in about 170 movies. To the audience, Simon is always cool and tough in the films. Behind the scenes, he is actually a courteous, sincere, organized, and perceptive man. We had invited him to share his experiences of photography and travel.

### The Happy Snapper

Simon likes travelling and takes many photographs. The themes of his photos are usually related to pleasant and energetic things. “My first camera was a Canon New F1. The first time I took photos was in 1989 during a tour of Eastern Europe. In a burst of inexplicable light-heartedness when I saw the natural landscapes in Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Poland, I wanted to grasp every moment to capture on film the beautiful things I was seeing. When I developed the photos after the trip, I found the scenery in the photos exceptionally captivating. That was not because my photographic skill was outstanding, but because the weather had been so good. It was unforgettable.”

“I have been busy filming movies over the last two years, so I have had fewer opportunities for photography tours. Early this year, I stayed in Britain for more than one month to shoot ‘Lara Croft Tomb Raider 2’. Every day I worked from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Britain in winter was always misty and cloudy. In these days, I carried my camera around a lot, but I never pressed the button. This depressed a photography fanatic like me. I hope when I visit Britain again in June or July, the weather will be better. When I returned to Hong Kong, the weather was not fine either. Plus with the outbreak of SARS and the death of a friend (Leslie Cheung), society seemed to be covered by a layer of ‘mist’. I don’t like shooting unhappy things. This is the way my photographic moods have been influenced.”

### Stories on Faces

Simon describes himself as a self-taught amateur photographer. “I have no photography teacher, nor have I read any introductory books on the subject. Photography is a matter of one’s



own instinct. It’s subjective thing in deciding the quality of a photo. I enjoy the process of taking photos, for I can think quietly and appreciate the changes of light.

“The most important thing for a person is that he or she must have his or her own style. For instance, in the aspects of dressing, acting, or singing, I dare not say my work is ‘beautiful’, but I can say ‘I have my own style’. That’s why I have never learned photography from a teacher. I don’t want to be influenced by others.

“My photograph themes are mainly about landscapes and abstract things. Occasionally I take portraits. My impressions of the old people in Tibet and Xinjiang are especially deep. Stories are told from their wrinkles on their faces and eyes.

“When I looked upon the white clouds in the sky in Tibet, I could imagine touching them by raising my hands. When the sunlight fell on my body and I was soaked through with sweat, I felt my pulse beating.”

### Talking Pictures

Over the years, Simon Yam has been to many countries and places in the world. When he arrives at a new place, how can he merge into local life and make friends with people who speak a different language? His answer is to be sincere and smile more.

“When you arrive a strange place, never be arrogant or proud. You have to be sincere with people. When I travelled to Morocco in Africa last year, I saw a group of innocent children playing excitedly in a square. Attracted by the happy scene, I tried to take photos of them. But the children stopped laughing, and looked at me in an unfriendly way. They even threw small stones at me. My good intentions were badly received. So I walked and sat beneath a huge tree at a distance. I thought, perhaps they had been poorly treated for a long time, or cheated by foreigners before, so they became very self-protective. I sat quietly watching them play, wishing that they would be willing to make friends with me. Fortunately, when the children ensured my purpose was only to take photos, they became friendly again.”

Thanks to his work, Simon usually spends six months of the year filming in other countries. No matter how tired he is, he will always take the





## Moving Homes

Though he has visited most places in China, Simon has never been to the hometown of his forebears, Jining in Northeast China's Shandong Province. "I was born in Hong Kong. The ancestors of my father shifted from Jining, Shandong, to Dongguan in Guangdong Province. My father became a policeman in Hong Kong. I've been to all places in Shandong, including Weifang and Jinan, except Jining. Perhaps I will visit there later. Shandong people are straightforward, and Shandong food is also unique."

Simon is a typical example of Shandong men who are usually tall and strong. His wife, Sophia Kao, is a well-known Shanghai international model. What is his impression of Shanghai? "I like traditional and modern cities, such as Shanghai very much. It is like London or New York. When I choose a job, I

also prefer those in which outdoor scenes are shot in Shanghai. Last time my wife and I stayed in Shanghai, we were there for three months to film a TV series. Every night, I just returned home and rested. Since I prefer light food and Shanghai food is relatively oily, I usually had dinner at home. In general, Shanghai is like my second home."

Simon's next job will be in Malaysia to shoot an advertisement for a brand of cameras. He plans to spend half a day taking photos of colourful butterflies in gardens there. A golden opportunity to blend work and leisure again.

## Finding New Angles

Mainland China has become the favourite travel destination of Simon in recent years. "I like places such as Xinjiang, Tibet, Changchun, Harbin, Suzhou, Kunming, Inner Mongolia, and Sichuan. Every place has its beauty, especially during deep autumn when the weather is fresh and comfortable. The photos are clear and have depth. Moreover, the people in these places are unsophisticated and unrestrained. I travel happily every time. So I am busy every autumn, travelling."

"Travelling to me is a happy and fresh experience. I hope to bring an optimistic perspective to people through my photos. Even though many upsetting things have happened lately, we should always remember there are ups and downs in life. Learning the lessons in low tide, we can stand up more easily when luck comes in. What Hong Kong people lack at the moment are concern and confidence. This is not merely caused by the government, but also by our attitudes. We have to think and discover from different angles."

1. On a trip to Tibet three years ago, Simon Yam took this photograph of himself (by Simon Yam)
2. The Potala Palace captured by Simon's camera (by Simon Yam)



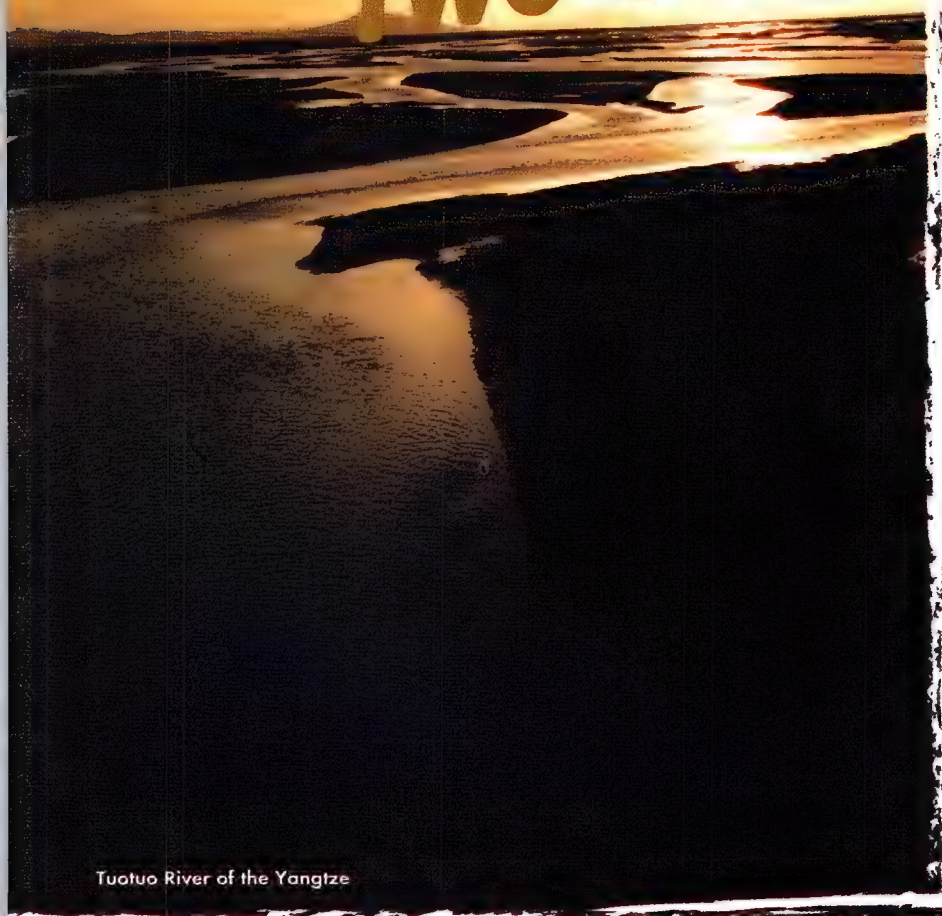
## Notes

When we said goodbye to each other at the end of the interview, Simon said, "Perhaps my words are somewhat 'scattered' and hard to understand. If you cannot get the point, it's not your problem."



# Trekking between the Sources of the **TWO GREAT RIVERS**

Photos & article by Zhou Wei



Tuotuo River of the Yangtze

**T**hen, 20 days later we were embraced by the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, with our feet stepping on the grassland of Qumarlêb — the first county at the source of the Yangtze.

## Remote Qumarlêb

The extensive Qumarlêb County surprises every traveller. In the north it boasts the long Kunlun Mountains; in the south are the Tanggular Mountains; in the east the Bayan Har Mountains; and in the west the Hol Xil Mountains. The mountain ranges and the sources of the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers echo each other. Qumarlêb is the highest county in China, with 4,200 metres above sea level on average.

We met Pengcuo Dawa, the head of Maduo Township, in Qumarlêb. Standing at a great altitude at the source of the Yellow River, the remote Maduo Township is the hardest place to live in

Qumarlêb. He ardently invited us to hire a jeep to the place where he lived. Therefor, we made a slight change in our trekking route — and it would start from the source of Yellow River (Maduo Township) to the source of the Yangtze River (Qumarlêb), which had never before been recorded. In fact, many Tibetans were surprised at hearing our plan. Soon-to-retire Ban Tai, director of the Budongquan Forestry Police Station, explained conditions we might en route,





## Sketch Map of Areas in Qinghai-Tibet Plateau



and sent a note to places we would stay, asking other Tibetans to give help as we needed. This undeniably greatly eased our journey.

### In the Footsteps of a King

Passing through the twists and turns of the mountain paths and rivers for more than eight hours, our jeep finally reached Bayan Village of Maduo Township. Later on, our jeep broke down again on the Mt. Yueguzonglie. Yet, this gave us one more chance to see the first stream of melted snow water flowing down from the Yellow River. Standing on the mountain top, I could make out the white pagodas at the mountain foot on faraway Yaladaze Sacred Mountain (5,214 m).

All along, I thought the Kariqu River was the source of Yellow River, as all my information said. However, the habitants of Kariqu regarded Yueguzongliequ River as the source. In 2000, when the state-level Sanjiangyuan Nature Reserve was set up, the status of Yueguzongliequ was also confirmed. Formed by a few streams of snow water, the stream is called Maqu (resembling Yellow River) after flowing eastward via Xingshuhai Lake to Gyaringhu Lake with the Kariqu River.

The source area of Yellow River was never an abandoned land. Gesser, the main character of the Tibetan epic, *The Legend of King Gesser*, ascended the throne after winning the horse race here. Legend also says it that the horse race was held in Zhajiatan. Today, the commanding terrace of Gesser still stands there. We decided to pay a visit to this monument on the second day in Maduo Township.

The command post of Gesser was constructed on the crest of a slope, facing a boundless grassland. Other structures included Mani stone piles, a white pagoda, and a praying hall with a two-metre giant prayer wheel inside. It is estimated that the construction of the command post involved about 10 tons of stone materials, with one specific piece of stone block weighing one ton or more. Since no mountain could be mined nearby, the origin of these huge stones remains a mystery.



### Cutting a New Path

On May 30, 2002, we began to trek from Maduo Township to Qumarlêb. There is a popular saying in Xining, capital of Qinghai Province: "Qumarlêb, Qumarlêb, you can enter it, but never come back!" The place is still the most uninviting spot for tourists in Qinghai because of no more roads after walking less than 500 metres. Looking ahead, what we saw were bald flatlands and snow-mountains capped with shining ice, as well as hills. Without much trekking experience or a local guide who was familiar with the direction, it was impossible to go farther. In this no man's land, we discovered some confused and unclear paths, but we could not tell whether they were left by man or beast.

Our guide Duoma Zhaxi said herdsman leaving their villages to buy "qingke" (highland barley), wheat flour or to do business established most of these paths. On mountain heads and crossroad mouths, Mani piles, pagodas, or simply the skulls of a wild cow or goat were placed as road instructions. If we could not recognize the instructions, we could check on the way whether there were any cow's droppings. If there were humid cow's droppings, we might find some herdsman's tents nearby.

We went deeper and deeper into the area. Sometimes we could not see a tent, cow, or goat for



A Tibetan on the plateau



After heavy snow



two days. Even our Tibetan tour guide had not been on such a route before. Fortunately, we were equipped with the GPS (Global Positioning System). We also borrowed a large-scale map from relevant departments in the county seat, so that we could mark the coordinates of every place we passed, preventing us from making any "directional errors".

### Water Everywhere, But Not a Drop to Drink

It was a challenge to one's life and will to trek through the desolate land at an altitude of 4,500 metres. In spite of altitude sickness, we never thought that the biggest problem would be water.

Over half of our trekking route was close to Tongtian River and Tuotuo River, or other branch streams of the Yangtze. Still, we lacked water. The water found at the source of the Yangtze was surprisingly the same as that of the Yellow River as we remembered, or even worse with a reddish brown colour. On the first day we trekked along Tongtian River, we could only stay in the tent eating dried biscuits because we had no water. Our guide carried a pot of water from Tongtian River and let the mud settle. The next morning, we found the mud and sand occupied one-third of the depth of the water, while the water still appeared somewhat turbid. I tried a mouthful, but it tasted a bit salty and sour. Anyway, we had to fill our bottles. Without water and vitamins, our lips bled with just a light touch and felt painful.

### Merciless Rapids

But the worst experience was to wade across the river branches. It was because in June — summertime on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau — temperatures rose, and snow began to melt. Water levels might rise from the knees to the waist in one night.



On June 15, the 17th day of our trekking tour, we reached another branch of Tongtian River — where the Riachiqu River and Tongtian River merged. Finally, we spent the whole afternoon in passing this marshland.

In the beginning, the major current on the water surface was not fast, and the water did not cover over our knees. We took off our shoes and walked around in the water for almost half day. Then, we found a 20-metre-wide river course. From its current, we could ensure that the river was not shallow. Lu Wei made a test of the water depth, but retreated every time. We therefore went downstream to seek for other suitable river courses. After 20 minutes, we chose a place to wade across. This time, we took off our trousers. And little Duoma even took off his underpants! When Lu Wei and I waded in the middle of the course, we suddenly heard a "splash" sound. Duoma had been dropped by his horse in the water. He was fortunate, having held the reins tightly, and soon stood up again. We were more careful. The water depth increased from our knees to our thighs, and just one step was left from the shore, the water suddenly rose over our waists. Some of us almost fell.

The three of us were all in a difficult position: all of our belongings including our clothes, sleeping bags in our knapsacks, and notebooks were wet. Getting on a flat area on the riverside, we sunned the things. Nevertheless, we celebrated our luck to have escaped from the danger. When we were ready and packed, we met another river course 10 minutes after setting off...

### NOTES

Before the tour, I thought that the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau must be very beautiful. It is not, indeed! Most of the time, I could only see a boundless flatland when I looked afar, so I even lost the interest in taking out my camera from the knapsack. However, it is wonderful, because of its ever-changing weather — it could be a world of silver white after snowing for a night; it could be extremely sunny within two hours; and in a flash, a whole gale with hailstones would blow up. However, in this 19-day trek, what impressed me the most were those Tibetans who had helped us on the way: Duoma Zhaxi, the honest and shy guide; Little Gongzha whose eyes reflected a light of ingenuity; Tudan who was not skilled in socializing, but frank; as the three young lads who sang to the night curtain in the sky...



# A Journey Around A Goddess

Photos & article by Hongxing, Zhang Chen

**T**here is a mountain in West China's Qinghai Province that has passed into legend among the local people. It is linked to the legendary Tibetan hero King Gesser and locals believe it is wise to keep the mountain happy, lest it vent its wrath on the surrounding inhabitants.

The mountain lies in the south of Qinghai, in Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, an area where I had visited for many times, and a local friend had advised me that I must see it.

## On Horseback to the Sacred Mountain

I took Train No. 115 from Beijing to Xining, and then spent 20 hours on a bus from Xining to Jiegu Town where I stayed at the military depot, which was both convenient and safe. There my friend told me some of the history of Gaduo Juewu Sacred Mountain.

Gaduo Juewu, in Gaduo Township of Chengduo County, Yushu Prefecture, ranks with Gangrenboqi in Tibet, Meili in Yunnan, and Animaging in Qinghai, as one of the four sacred mountains of Tibetan Buddhism.

Gaduo Juewu, meaning "a major goddess of the Shangkan area", was one of sacred mountains that Khri Srong Ide Tsan, a king of ancient Tibet, used to worship in the Tibetan area. It was the holiest mountain in the Yangtze River area, and king Gesser made a deity of the sacred mountain during

a memorial ceremony for his concubines.

It was nearly 200 km from the Jiegu Town to the Saikang Monastery of the Gelupa Sect at the foot of the mountain. Chief Bawu and a young man named Baima joined me as my tour companions. The chief said an outsider would have difficulty finding the highest peak if without a guide, let alone taking good pictures.

Eastward from Jiegu Town, we traveled along No. 214 National Highway and arrived at the Qingshuihe Township, and then followed a by-road about 50 km northward to Qumarlêb County. About five hours later, a lofty peak came into sight. This was the main peak of the sacred mountain.

The pathway was accessible only to the Saikang Monastery. So one would have to hire a horse from the Monastery to really see the splendour of the mountain.

Early the next morning, we all mounted up, with an extra horse carrying a bag





containing camera and other luggage, and began to travel around the mountain clockwise, which was the custom of the Tibetan people.

## The Valley of Changing Colours

Gaduo Juewu is a complex group of peaks, with the highest 5,470 metres above sea level and the average elevation 4,900 metres. It took two to four days to circle the mountain, and the whole journey was nearly 100 km, on horseback or toiling on foot. Going upwards along the streams on the way, one could see beautiful scenes at every turn.

We had a rest for a while when we came to two adjoining valleys. The chief told me to look at my clothes. Curious, I took a look, and surprisingly I found a layer of green hair seemed to have appeared on my light-coloured clothes. We were in the Machao Pass, a mysterious valley where colours changed. I looked around, finding the rocks were all red. It might have been the reflections of the light, I guessed.

## Picking Flowers Angers the Goddess

Out of the "colour-changing valley", I found *Saussurea involucrata* all over the ground. Unlike their larger relatives in Xinjiang, these hairy, light purple flowers were alluring. I couldn't help picking some, only to find that this displeased the chief who worried that my actions would anger the sacred mountain...

We camped less than one kilometre from the main peak, staying in a large Tibetan-style

tent the chief had brought, and eating the solid food we carried and the dried meat that the Living Buddha of the monastery had prepared for us. At the very foot of the sacred mountain, we drank a bowl of hot tea cooked with the melt water flowing down from the sacred mountain, and fell asleep to the voices of the mountain. Although a cold wind was whistling, we felt warm and comfortable inside.

I got up early the second day, but was disappointed to find it was cloudy and drizzling. The chief said this was the result of my picking the *Saussurea involucrata*. We waited for a while, but the bad weather showed no sign of turning. The chief became anxious and bowed towards the mountain, praying for it to show itself to us soon.

The chief's prayer was answered on the third day, and I took some pictures of the main peak shining in the golden sunrise.

## A Silent Pass at Yamagailang

As we approached Yamagailang Pass, the chief warned us sternly, "Be sure not to make any loud noises when we arrive at Yamagailang, for the slopes there are at angles about 60 or 70 degrees and covered with loose debris. Any loud talk could cause the stones to roll down..."

Yamagailang was so beautiful it took my breath away. Standing at an altitude of 4,900 metres, I had a feeling of standing on air. With so many peaks bowing under my



feet, I came to know the true meaning of the old lines, "To know a gentleman's mind, one should reach the very top of the mountain and see the views of peaks below."

The journey was breathtakingly precarious, but without incident. Moreover, we were lucky enough to see some wild bharals and yaks. We spent three days traveling a circle around the holy mountain. Back at the monastery, my thoughts were still going around.

1. The Gaduo Juewu Peak looks like a pyramid in the morning sunlight
2. Visitors should keep silent as they ride through the Yamagailang Pass
3. The White Eight-treasure Auspicious Stupa in front of the Saikang Monastery
4. The Gaduo Juewu is a mountain of many peaks



## Travel Tips

To travel around the holy mountain, you may start from Xining.

Xining → Yushu (813 km): About 20-hour by bus from Xining Bus Station to Jiegu Town, the capital city of the Yushu Prefecture.

Fare: 130 yuan (sleeper); 90 yuan (seat).

Jiegu Town → Saikang Monastery (200 km) It's in Gaduo Township, Chengduo County: A return trip of a chartered Beijing jeep costs about 1,000–1,200 yuan, and it can arrive the same day. The highway is accessible only to Saikang Monastery, so visitors will have to ride horses or walk on foot afterwards. No restaurants, shops or lodging places are available in the mountain. You'd better bring your own tents and food with you. If you want to hire horses tents and quilts, you can contact the Saikang Monastery and negotiate the price with them. Moreover, a guide is necessary.

The whole journey around the mountain takes 2–4 days (from the start at the Monastery). You can buy your necessary food in Jiegu Town or Zhaduo Township (8 km to the Saikang Monastery). The buffet is available in the Monastery too.

Contact in Yushu: Bawu Duojie (previously chief of the Gaduo Township) 976-8827038/ 8861613





# Night Escape from Golmud

Photos by Joe Chan Article by Uni Hung

**Editor's note :** Last year, Hong Kong and Macao residents were told that they were officially exempted from the requirement for entry permits for Tibet Autonomous Region on the Chinese mainland. Many of our readers and some of our staff correspondents left for Tibet by air or bus. Some of the travellers reached Tibet without difficulty, but others were deceived by profiteers in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, or had difficulties going through Customhouse in Yunnan. But the most sinister events occurred at Golmud, Qinghai Province, a transfer station to Lhasa.

After some twists and turns, the policy on the exemption from Tibet entry permits for Hong Kong and Macao residents has been promulgated and implemented. We hope that the following story will be the last of its kind.

**E**ver thought of being a character in the movie *Casablanca*? The following story is the author's personal experience rather than the plot of a film.

## Welcomed by Extortioner

On the morning of July 16, our party of four arrived in Golmud. As soon as we had walked out of the railway station, a man and a woman approached us, saying they were staff of the Golmud Hotel, where they invited us to stay for 100 yuan a day each. I

remembered it was a hotel that had been mentioned in *China Tourism*. "We are lucky enough to get a free ride to the hotel," I thought to myself. I also invited three young men I met in Xining to go with us.

We never expected that the free ride would take into a very sinister situation.

While we were checking in at the hotel, we met three woman teachers from Hong Kong. After a short rest, my companions and I went to the Golmud Travel Service on the second floor of the hotel to ask how to get to Lhasa. The staff tried every way to convince us to join a group of tourists who were travelling to Lhasa by sleeper bus, charging 1,700 yuan per person including the fee for Tibet entry permits. When we mentioned that tourists from Hong Kong and Macao did not need Tibet entry permits, they responded indifferently. When we asked if we could buy the long-distance-bus tickets to Lhasa by ourselves, they answered coldly: "You can try, but see if you can do." Then we went to the agency of the Tibet Tourism Bureau in Golmud to make inquiries. The staff there hummed and



hawed, saying they had not received any formal documents from the National Tourism Administration. We visited two long-distance bus terminals, but the ticket sellers refused to sell us tickets after checking our home return permits.

## Plotting Our Escape

Soon after we returned to the hotel, two men knocked at our door, saying they were attendants of the hotel. We remembered we had seen them at the lobby, so we let them in. They said they had been informed that we were Hong Kong tourists. The staff of the travel service in the hotel were keeping a close watch on us, and local taxi drivers would be too scared to take us to Tibet. But they could help us to go to Lhasa for a fee of 900 yuan each. (Oh, we soon realized that the key to solving problems was money.) The 10





of us had a discussion. We decided to contact two taxi drivers whom we had met during the day at the railway station — we would run away to Lhasa at night, and each of us would pay 400 yuan to the taxi drivers.

We made our preparations separately and agreed to meet at the railway station at 8:00 p.m. After supper, we met one of the hotel attendants. He warned us against making any rash moves because if we checked out of the hotel, the staff would inform the people on duty at the checkpoint right away. They would stop us from going. My three companions and I decided to take no action, and immediately informed the other six. But they decided to risk it.

### Thieves' Law in Golmud

It took about 30 minutes from the railway station to the checkpoint in the mountains. We kept in touch with the six adventurers by phone. However at about 9:00 p.m., we lost contact with them and we became very worried.

Finally at 10:00 p.m., we got news from the mountain. The staff of the travel service had detained our six friends and the two taxi drivers, and confiscated the car keys. Moreover, the staff members of the travel agency threatened them. My friends asked them to show the official document according to which they were detained, but to their great surprise, they were only told: "What documents? It is Golmud. We can do what we want." We were so worried about them that we could not sleep the whole night.

The next morning, we had no news from our friends detained in the mountains. We decided to leave this "black" hotel. So we checked out, got a taxi and headed for Dunhuang Grottoes in Gansu. When we were checking out at the reception desk, the attendant called the unit in front of us, saying: "The Hong Kong tourists have checked out."

### A Change of Plan

On the way to Dunhuang, we received a phone call from our six friends who had been through a very disturbing experience. It

turned out that they had argued strongly with the travel agency staff for quite a long time, but neither side was willing to back down. One of the drivers was afraid that the situation was spinning out of control, so he called the local police. Considering that our friends were Hong Kong residents, the staff of the travel agency decided against pressing the matter too far. Under the mediation of the local police, the travel agency staff refused to let our friends go, but escorted them down the mountain. Our friends found a place to rest for a few hours, feeling their personal safety was threatened. Moreover they had lost all interest in going to Tibet. In the early morning, they changed their plans and got on a bus for Dunhuang, then to Xinjiang.

At six o'clock in the morning of July 18, we watched the sunrise over Humming Sand Dune. Then we rode camels and surfed down the sand dune, and paid a visit to the famous Mogao Grottoes. After lunch, we visited Yumenguan Pass, the Great Wall built in the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.—25), and Yardang National Geology Park. We all had a better understanding of the old saying "Every cloud has a silver lining."

### A Second Attempt at Lhasa

However, we all refused to give up our trip to Lhasa. On the afternoon of July 19, we met the two "hotel attendants" in the outskirts of Golmud. Then they sent us to a hostel on the outskirts of the city. We checked in with the identification cards of locals. Then they told us not to leave the hostel.

At two o'clock in the morning, one of the hotel attendants called us, saying we could set out right away. Soon after, he came to our room,

telling us the direction we should go after leaving the hostel. We walked toward the front gate in a hurry, carrying our luggage. Passing the reception desk, an attendant asked us to check out. We strolled away without even daring to turn our heads, saying that someone else behind would check out for us.

When our two taxis approached the checkpoint, the hotel attendant asked his friend to take the first taxi through the checkpoint. If they went through smoothly, he would inform us by phone. Eventually the man called us and we drove through the checkpoint without a hitch. After fleeing from Golmud in the middle of the night, we were finally on our way to Tibet.

Thirty hours later, we arrived in Lhasa. We breathed the fresh and free air. The Tibetan people were very friendly to us. In Tibet we did not need the Tibet entry permit. Even at the Qomolangma Peak Nature Reserve at Tingri, the staff of the inspection station only checked our home visit permits. The procedure was very simple, and took only five minutes. 

1. On the way to the Qomolangma Peak
2. The sun is still strong in the evening in the yardang area of Dunhuang, so sun glasses and hat are necessary
3. Inside the Drepung Monastery in Lhasa
4. Admiring the Qomolangma





# Seeing the World Through a

Photos & article by Chau Wing Kit

# Fish Eye

Since an 8 mm fish-eye lens will compress the subjects and pictures will be circle-shaped, the range of subjects is very limited, so it

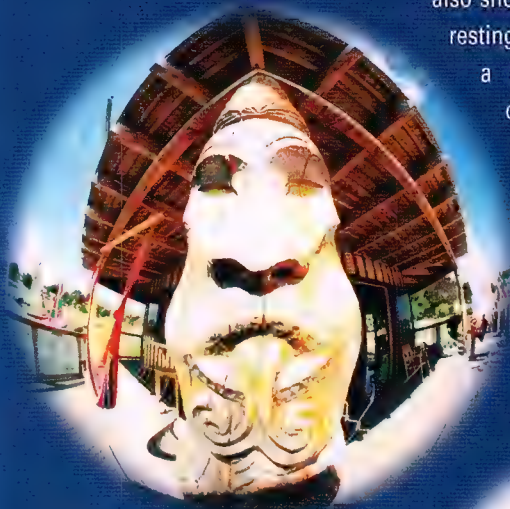
is only favoured by a few photography hobbyists. However, if you make the right choice of subject, the fish-eye lenses can create extraordinary photos.

- ◀ Here are two photos taken at a pond. The bigger one uses a 14 mm wide-angle lens, and the smaller an 8 mm fish-eye lens. The two contrasting photos look attractive in different ways. The latter has emphasized the pottery container, and shows the surrounding environment.





- Shooting with an 8 mm lens, the butterfly becomes more outstanding. The photo also shows clearly the butterfly is resting on a tree, a depth that a common micro-distance lens cannot show.



- Using the 8 mm fish-eye lens, always remember to take close-ups of objects which have clear lines. Pay attention to the vertical and horizontal axes. Since an 8 mm lens is easily influenced by light sources, test the light and give exposure compensation.



**Tips** As there are very few fish-eye lens users, the product may have to be ordered in advance. Sigma provides fish-eye lenses with apertures from F4 to 32, a shooting angle of 180 degrees, and the closest focus is 0.2 metres. Using the shutter is recommended.

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## The Fifth Nature Reserves in Hebei

**Hebei** Approved for state-protected reserve status by the State Council, Dahaituo—a newly-upgraded nature reserve covering 4,248.7 hectares—became a province-level nature reserve in Chicheng County in northern China's Hebei Province in this mid-June. Established in July 1999, Dahaituo houses wild walnut (*Gastrodia elata*), leopard, gold eagle, and other animals.

So far, five state-level nature reserves in four types of virgin forest have been established in Zhangjiakou and Chengde to protect ecotypic grassland, wild animals and geological heritage. All the nature reserves, including Dahaituo, Wuling and the Xiaowutai mountains, Hongsongwa and Nihewan, play an important role in protecting the nearby Beijing city's environment.

## More Hotels to Foreigners in East China's Province

**East China** East China's Anhui Province is opening more hotels to foreigners in 17 cities and the two scenic areas of Huangshan Mountain and Jiuhuashan Mountain.

By the end of this September, foreigners will no longer be required to live in government-designated hotels, which will make their stay and travel in the province more convenient.

Anhui had earlier eased the restrictions in the cities of Hefei, Ma'anshan, Fuyang and Huangshan as well as the scenic area of Huangshan Mountain in a pilot program.

## Protective Measures Improve Natural Environment

**Hainan** A total of 66 nature reserves covering 2.69 million hectares have been built in southernmost China's Hainan Province recently. Last year, the Hainan government allocated 4.31 million yuan for the management of these nature reserves. The Jianfeng and Tonggu mountain ridges have been converted into state nature reserves, and the Wuzhishan Mountain Nature Reserve has applied for state-listed park status. A protective network has also been constructed for its forests, water resources, wildlife, scenic spots and marine resources.

The protective measures have led to an increase in the number of endangered wildlife and plant species. The province now has 4,600 kinds of vascular bundle wild plants, accounting for 15% of China's total. Some 600 species are native to Hainan. There are 566 terrestrial vertebrate species in Hainan, accounting for 18.8% of China's total, and that of reptile species is 104, or 33% of the national total.



A mangrove in Hainan

## China Strengthens Protection of Black-necked Cranes

**China** China has granted two nature reserves in the Tibet Autonomous Region in its southwest the status of state-level protection zones to ensure the protection of the rare black-necked crane.

The valley along the middle reaches of the Yarlung Zangbo River and the Senyingco Nature Reserve, two newly-created protection zones, are major habitats of rare cranes in Tibet. Covering more than 8,000 sq km, the two nature reserves span four prefectures and cities in Tibet.



The establishment of the two protection zones brings the total number of state-level nature reserves in Tibet to seven.

Thanks to the effective measures that Tibet has taken to protect rare cranes, the number of cranes spending the winter in this southwestern region has grown rapidly in recent years. Experts say that more than 1,600 black-necked cranes migrated to Lhunzhub County alone this past winter, compared with only 700 in 1992. Biologists from China and the United States estimate that about 4,200 black-necked cranes spent this past winter in Tibet. The animal usually stays in Tibet for about six months.

At present, there are more than 5,000 black-necked cranes living in the world. The remote areas of Tibet, Yunnan, Qinghai and Guizhou provinces are among the few habitats of black-necked cranes in China.



## Beijing Sets Laws to Preserve the Great Wall

**Beijing** As the part of a long-awaited regulation aimed at protecting the Great Wall brought in by the Beijing Administrative Bureau of Cultural Relics, intrepid hikers will not be permitted to explore those unprotected sections of the Great Wall around the city from August onwards.

An increasing number of visitors in recent years to the wilder and more fragile stretches are threatening irreparable harm to the structure. In the past decade the municipality's counties and townships have designed a series of visitor areas along the wall and also a number of hotels, shops and other facilities including cable cars, to take visitors to the top of some of the steepest sections.

The new regulation has given the bureau the authority to draft a ruling that prohibits the building of any structure that poses physical and aesthetic damage to the wall and its natural setting. The prohibition extends 500 metres on either side of the wall. Those existing constructions, which are now illegal according to the new regulation, will be ordered to move within a fixed period of time.

Another major problem for the relic protection department is that half of the Great Wall, mostly hidden in the mountains, is in a poor state, lacks protection and is in urgent need of renovation. The daily activities of local villagers, such as herding, gathering firewood and cultivating wasteland, have hastened the natural deterioration of the wall.

More recently, as more and more people like to explore the wild sections of the wall, these parts have also been placed in jeopardy. Under the new regulation any activities, including those mentioned, which damage or threaten the Great Wall will be forbidden.

The new regulation is said to be the first one around the country devoting to the protection of the Great Wall.



Simatai Great Wall

## Museum on Tibet's Diversity Natural Resources

**Lhasa** A museum showcasing Tibet's diverse natural resources is expected to be opened to the public in this September in Nyingchi Prefecture, the first of its kind in this Southwest China autonomous region. Nyingchi located in southeastern Tibet is known for its vast forests and diverse species of animals and plants, including tigers, leopards and bears.

The museum covers 3,500 square metres. A 10,000-square-metre ecological square will be built in front of the museum. All the buildings will be built in harmony with the surrounding landscape.

## Seventh Shanghai Art Fair to Be Held as Scheduled

**Shanghai** The Seventh Shanghai Art Fair, one of the main activities of the Shanghai International Art Festival 2003, will take place as scheduled from October 28 to November 2.

A floor space of 13,000 square metres would be set aside for exhibition of traditional Chinese paintings, oil paintings, woodcuts and sculpture, along with trading of decorative handicrafts.

In a bid to draw more overseas exhibitors to the fair, the organizers have decided to slash participation fees for overseas exhibitors to the level of commissions charged on domestic exhibitors. This year's fair would be one day longer than last year's. The fifth Shanghai international art festival will take place from October 18 to November 18.

## Admission Fees of Tibetan Major Tourist Attractions Raised

**Lhasa** The price authorities of the Tibet Autonomous Region has increased admission fees at major Tibetan tourist sites.

The increases of admission fees at the 27 state-level cultural sites, for the most part, at Tibet's temples. The famous Potala Palace, for example, has its admission fee set at 100 yuan per person

The price adjustments were carried out because the prices were found to be relatively low compared to other state-level tourist sites elsewhere in the country.





## Hotels in Chongqing

Name	Star	Address	Tel (23)	Fax (23)
Harbour Plaza Chongqing	*****	Wuyi Rd, Yuzhong Dist.	63700888	63700778
Marriott Hotel Chongqing	*****	77 Qingnian Rd, Yuzhong Dist.	63888888	63888777
Chongqing Guest House	****	235 Minsheng Rd	63845888	63830643
East Garden Hotel	****	56 Xuetian Wanzhen St, Yuzhong Dist.		
Golden Mountain Hotel	****	97 Zhongshan First Rd, Yuzhong Dist.	63538888	63524764
Hoi Tak Hotel	****	318 Nanping Rd S	62838888	62805747
Holiday Inn Yangtze Hotel	****	15 Nanping Rd N	62803380	62800884
South West Hotel	****	5 Nanping Rd N	62802901	62800911
Wan You Conifer Hotel	****	77 Changjiang Second Rd	68718888	68770783
Xiya Hotel	****	33 Yuzhou Rd, Xiya Square, Shiqiaopu	68600999	68600084
Chongqing Grand Hotel	***	84 Xianlongkan New St	65304258	65313293
Chongqing Guesthouse	***	41 Xinhua Rd	63849301	63843085
Chongqing Hotel	***	41~43 Xinhua Rd	63846688	63843085
Chungking Hotel	***	41 Xinhua Rd	63849301	63843085
Jianshe Hotel	***	Xiejiawan	68816647	68815132
Mega Hotel	***	32 Zhongshan Third Rd	63866488	63871811
Milky Way Hotel	***	49 Datong Rd	63808585	63812080
Renmin Hotel	***	173 Renmin Rd	63851421	63852076
Wudu Hotel Chongqing	***	24 Zengjiayan, Yuzhong Dist.	63850762	63851788
Baixiang Hotel Chongqing	**	18 Baixiang St, Yuzhong Dist.	63834646	
Chang'an Hotel Chongqing	**	Tea Garden, Jiangbei Dist.	67857044	67857071
Waimao Hotel Chongqing	**	65 Jianxin Rd N, Jiangbei Dist.	67858100	67858828
Wansheng Guesthouse	**	42 Kuangshan Rd, Wansheng Dist.	48270487	48271819
Xiniu Hotel Chongqing	**	190 Shengli Rd, Lianglu Town, Yubei Dist.	67825888	
Yudu Hotel	**	168 Bayi Rd	63835215	66818168
Yutong Hotel Chongqing	**	North end of the overpass, Hongqihegou	67872491	



# Flights to and from Chongqing

Route	Days	Dep.	Arr.	Flight
Beijing — Chongqing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1535	1755	CA1409
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1840	2100	SZ4135
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1145	1400	SZ4137
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1710	1930	SZ4141
Chongqing — Beijing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1835	2050	CA1410
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1545	1750	SZ4136
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	0845	1045	SZ4138
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1400	1610	SZ4142
Changchun — Chongqing	4 7	1510	1900	SZ4651
	1 3 6	0850	1425	CJ6449
Chongqing — Changchun	4 7	0805	1130	SZ4652
	1 3 6	1515	2000	CJ6450
Chengdu — Chongqing	2 4 6	2040	2130	SZ4437
	3 5 7	1610	SZ4521	SZ4521
Chongqing — Chengdu	2 4 6	1910	2000	SZ4438
	3 5 7	2205	2300	SZ4522
Dalian — Chongqing	1	1710	2050	SZ4647
	4	1320	1650	SZ4647
	2 3 5 7	0905	1220	CJ6425
	1	1530	1830	3Q4617
	5	1520	1810	3Q4617
Chongqing — Dalian	1	1240	1630	SZ4648
	4	0840	1240	SZ4648
	5 7	1655	2010	CJ6426
	2 3	1720	2010	CJ6426
	1	1210	1450	3Q4618
Fuzhou — Chongqing	2 4 6 7	1110	1420	SZ4547
	3 5	1450	1820	MF8413
	3 6	0730	1200	MF8425
Chongqing — Fuzhou	2 4 6 7	0745	1030	SZ4548
	3 5	1900	2150	MF8414
	3 6	1240	1715	MF8426
Guangzhou — Chongqing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	0820	1010	CZ3405
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1355	1530	CZ3415
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1015	1200	SZ4320
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1620	1850	FM 547
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1525	1705	SZ4349
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1025	1210	3U 341
Chongqing — Guangzhou	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1110	1240	CZ3406
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1620	1800	CZ3416
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	0700	0940	SZ4319
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1310	1445	SZ4350
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	0810	0945	3U 342
Haikou — Chongqing	2 5 7	1340	1535	WH2341
	1 3 6	1805	1950	CZ3439
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	2045	2250	SZ4741

Route	Days	Dep.	Arr.	Flight
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	2035	2315	3U 385
	2 4 6	0745	0940	HU7185
	1 3 5 7	0740	0955	HU7267
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1555	2010	HU7517
Chongqing — Haikou	2 5 7	1105	1255	WH2342
	1 3 6	2035	2215	CZ3440
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1820	2000	SZ4742
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1815	1940	3U 386
	2 4 6	1020	1215	HU7186
	1 3 5 7	1425	1555	HU7268
Hangzhou — Chongqing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1000	1340	HU7518
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	0815	1125	F65979
	1 5 7	1350	1715	F65969
	3	1350	1655	F65969
Chongqing — Hangzhou	3 6	0855	1200	MF8425
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1210	1530	F65980
	1 5 7	1755	2120	F65970
	3	1800	2120	F65970
	3 6	1240	1545	MF8426
Lijiang — Chongqing	2 5	1110	1350	SZ4427
Chongqing — Lijiang	2 5	0740	1020	SZ4428
Nanchang — Chongqing	5	1440	1620	SZ4841
	2 4 7	2035	2210	SZ4841
	2 4	0930	1100	MU7411
Chongqing — Nanchang	5	0825	0955	SZ4842
	2 4 7	1510	1620	SZ4842
	4 7	1140	1310	MU7412
Shanghai (Hongqiao) — Chongqing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1140	1420	SZ4542
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1640	1920	SZ4543
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1350	1620	MU5401
Chongqing — Shanghai (Hongqiao)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	0755	1100	SZ4541
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1345	1545	SZ4544
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1700	1855	MU5402
Xi'an — Chongqing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1800	1905	WH2403
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	0930	1105	WH2521
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1940	2035	SZ4241
	1 2 4 5 6 7	1940	2045	3U 211
Chongqing — Xi'an	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1945	2040	WH2404
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1705	1810	WH2522
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1805	1900	SZ4242
	1 2 4 5 6 7	1800	1900	3U 212
Yichang — Chongqing	2 5 7	0830	0950	WU 439
	3 6	1330	1450	WU 441
	1 3 4 6 7	1000	1230	WU 331
Chongqing — Yichang	2 5 7	1510	1630	WU 440
	3 6	1530	1700	WU 442
	1 3 4 6 7	1320	1540	WU 332

\* For reference only.

## Airline codes:

CA= Air China  
HU= Hainan Airlines Co Ltd  
WU= Wuhan Airlines

CJ= China Northern Airlines  
MF= Xiamen Airlines Co Ltd  
3Q= Yunnan Airlines

CZ= China Southern Airlines  
MU= China Eastern Airlines  
3U= Sichuan Airlines

FM= Shanghai Airlines  
SZ= China Southwest Airlines

F6= CNAC-Zhejiang Airlines  
WH= China Northwest Airlines





## AUGUST

25/7~25/8

Since ancient times, the Wutai Mountain located in Taihuai Town, Wutai County, Shanxi Province, has been a site of temple fairs. Nowadays, these temple fairs have evolved into the **Wutai Mountain International Tourist Month**, which sets the stage for displaying the Wutai Mountain as one of China's four major Buddhist mountain sanctuaries and its wealth of ancient sites and cultural artifacts. Large-scale Buddhist ritualistic ceremonies, folk art activities, and a large mule and horse fair. During the month, the entire mountain is enshrouded in the mystery of a religious atmosphere, as monks from all over the country gather at Taihuai Town performing Buddhist rites to save the souls of the dead and chanting Buddhist sutras.



July~August

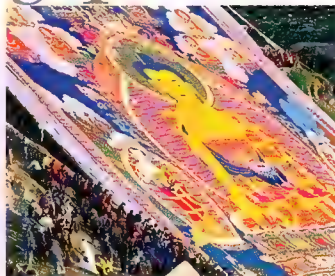
Held in Zunyi City, Maotao Township in Renhuai, and the Shizhang Caves in Chishui, Guizhou Province, the **Guizhou Famous Liquor and Wine Festival** will boast an opening ceremony and large recreational performances. Tourists may visit the Zunyi Museum of Liquor and Wine and the Maotai Brewery, home of China's most famous "baijiu" (white spirit). Other tourist attractions include the site of China's historical Zunyi Meeting and the waterfalls at the Shizhang Caves. After participating the event, every tourist will have to agree Guizhou people are hospitable and own large capacity for wine.

28/8~3/9

The **2nd China (Changchun) Folk Art Exposition** in this capital city of Northeast China's Jilin Province, is expected to give impetus to the development of the country's folk art industry. Trade fairs of artworks, including calligraphic works and paintings, and forums on folk art will be staged during the event at the joint sponsorship of many organisations. Many artworks with typical and vivid features of Northeast China, including tree-root carvings, paper cuttings and clay sculptures, along with other items from around China in 11 categories such as paintings, knitting, potted plants and antiques, will be on display and for sale.

20/6~29/8

Haikou, capital city of Hainan Province, has launched an **international city design contest**, with a top prize of as much as US\$250,000. The aim of the contest was to create an urban design for a downtown waterside area of about 825 hectares. The city has invited design institutes both home and abroad to compete for the prize, and the best scheme will be judged by the appraisal committee. The city design contest is aimed at creating a charming tropical coastal city and providing citizens and tourists with the best possible environment.



27/8~3/9

Also known as the Yogurt Banquet Festival, the **Tibetan Shoton Festival** is one of the grandest festivals in Tibet. During the festival, traditional Tibetan operas will be performed and fairs with various materials will be held. On the last day, yogurt was served as meal followed by folk song and dance entertainment. Since the 7th century, opera performances were held for days in Norbulingka, the Summer Palace of the Dalai Lama. Presently, opera contests and distribution of prizes will be held for seven days.

23~30/7

The **Shanghai International Children's Cultural and Art Festival** has been held successfully for three times since 1994. About 5,000 children of 50 Children's art troupes and professional children's drama troupes from nearly 20 countries such as Australia, Belgium, Cuba, Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Korea, Holland, Russia, South Africa, United States and many provinces of China including Hong Kong and Taiwan have joined the event. The International Children's Forum will provide a stage for children where they may talk about the fashionable topics of the world.





## Feature Story: The Three Gorges Changed Forever (II)

EXCLUSIVE  
COLLECTION

Starting from June 1, 2003, the Three Gorges Dam tamed completely the tough roaring Yangtze River. The 50-year-long dream of the Chinese people to have a smooth lake in narrow gorges has come true as scheduled. As the water suddenly rises, old cities and towns as well as thousand-year-old cultural relics have sunk to the river and never to be seen again. Photographer Zheng Yunfeng continues to present you breath-taking photos shoot at critical moments before and after the historical changes.



### Challenges: Fifty Years After Conquering the Qomolangma

After Hong Kong professional mountaineer Chung Kin Man has successfully summited the Qomolangma Peak in late May, the place has been under spotlight again. In this column, our writer chase back various legends in human history of conquering the world's highest mountain. Fifty years have passed since then. Expeditions from countries across the globe have never stopped in the past half a century, not for any reason, just "because it's there".



### Bed & Board: Lodging at Dali

In the eyes of many visitors, Yunnan city Dali is just a place favoured by foreigners. Actually, this unique cultural landscape extends to another field-hotels and hostels. The folk architecture of the Bai Minority with swimming pools, the old school houses with Taiwanese tearooms, and restaurant sheds built with bamboos... an outstanding taste highlighted in a kind of "disorder."

### Profile: Xuan Ke

As the writer recalls, Xuan Ke was an energetic and strong-willed man with thick black hair, though he was about 70 years old. He has devoted

himself to the popularization of Naxi Ancient Music since 1986. He introduces this special type of music to common people through humours and interesting expressions. In this way, he has put new life to the ancient art form, making it known in Beijing, Hong Kong and the far away lands of Holland, Britain and the United States.







# Readership Survey

*China Tourism* always appreciates feedback from its readers. In accordance with your suggestions, we have recently added a variety of new columns. Still, we need to know more of your opinions, including criticisms and suggestions. Please take a couple of minutes to complete this questionnaire and return it to us. Thank you!

**Please give your evaluation of the stories in this issue and your overall impression of *China Tourism*.**

	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
<b>The Three Gorges Changed Forever (I)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>The People of the Ergun River</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Dining in Macao</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>New Life in Northwest Yunnan</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Simon Yam: A Style of His Own</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Others:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Excellent	Good	Average	Fair	Poor
<b>Photographs</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Cover</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Articles</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Tips for the Traveller</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Art Design</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other Opinions:</b> _____					

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Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of trips to China in the last 5 years: \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ Subscription ☐ Newsstand or bookstore

☐ Hotel Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Others \_\_\_\_\_

## Main purpose for reading *China Tourism*?

☐ Planning trips ☐ General interest in China's customs, scenery, etc. ☐ Business

☐ Tourist Trade purposes ☐ Others \_\_\_\_\_

## What do you like most about *China Tourism*?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Are you happy with the factual content of *China Tourism*?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

## What are your suggestions for improvement?

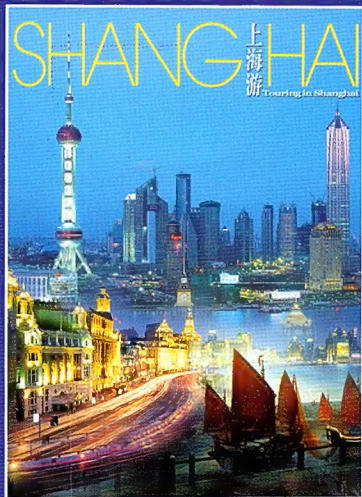
\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for taking the time to fill in this questionnaire. It provides us with invaluable feedback which will help us improve *China Tourism* magazine for you.

\*Please mail this questionnaire to our office at 24/F, Westlands Centre, 20 Westlands Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong, or fax to (852) 2561 8196.



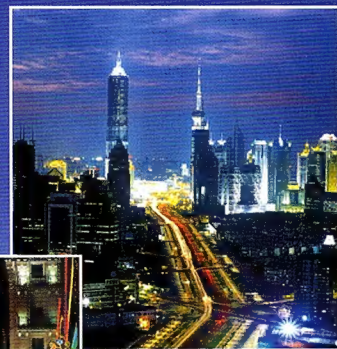
**BEST SELLER**



## Shanghai

has evolved at an unprecedented speed for decades into the biggest commercial city in China and one of the great metropolises of the world. Favourably located at the mouth of the Yangtse River, Shanghai has a long history and a rich culture. Commercial tower blocks and traditional buildings exude their individual charms simultaneously in the Pudong District, where hundreds of buildings in different styles, old or new, are collectively known as the Exposition of World Architecture. A kaleidoscope of entertainments and festivals of Old Shanghai attracts scores of entrepreneurs and travellers alike. "Touring in Shanghai" takes you deeper into this vibrant city

through spectacular photography, along with outlines for more than 10 different kinds of tours including a shopping tour, popular tourist sights, cultural excursions, and more. Practical information summarises accommodations, transport and dining options, and tourist maps are also included. "Touring in Shanghai" is the latest, most comprehensive travel pictorial of Shanghai available in Hong Kong.



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## Hong Kong China Tourism Photo Library



The Hong Kong China Tourism Photo Library is the longest established and largest of its kind in China. Hundreds of thousands of the finest examples of photographic art from our own professionals and over 700 other photographers throughout the country reveal China in all its moods and glories. The library is a constantly updated resource offering the most comprehensive range available of high quality imagery of China.

E-mail: [plib@hkctp.com.hk](mailto:plib@hkctp.com.hk)

